

# Nehemiah: Lesson 1

**SuperTruth:** I will do the work God calls me to do.

**SuperVerse:** “The God of heaven will help us succeed. We, His servants, will start rebuilding this wall.” Nehemiah 2:20 (NLT)

**Bible Story:** Nehemiah 1–8

## LARGE GROUP / GRADES 1–6

Nehemiah served the king of Persia faithfully as his cup-bearer. This was an important job that the king’s life depended on! As Nehemiah faithfully served the king, God called Nehemiah to do an even greater work. When we do the work God calls us to do, He will help us to succeed!

- Chris must tutor some rowdy boys—but how can he help them if they keep making fun of him?
- Superbook takes Chris, Joy and Gizmo to meet Nehemiah. He creates a daring plan to rebuild Jerusalem’s ruined walls, even though wicked men mock him—and plot to kill him! The children discover how to find courage to overcome every challenge.

## SMALL GROUP / GRADES 1–6

**Game:** Whatever is Needed (15 minutes)

**Objective:** Play a game to do different assignments to win the game.

- Nehemiah and the people worked together to accomplish the task of rebuilding the walls in only 52 days! Today, you will be assigned fun tasks to do as teams, representing real tasks that you might do as you serve God.

**Game Instructions:**

- Teams play at the same time. Everyone rotates positions, with Player 4 carrying the ball to stand where Player 1 was. Continue playing until every member of the team has been in each position. The first team to finish wins.

**Teaching:** Working For God (15 minutes)

**Objective:** Discuss the work God calls us to do.

- Even though Nehemiah was a captive in a foreign land, he was faithful in his service to the king. Because of this, the king trusted Nehemiah, even with his own life! No matter how big or small the task, when we faithfully serve God, He will bless us.

**Take Home Activity—Discipleship Challenge (2 minutes)**

- The challenge will be to read a Bible verse in the wall and fill in the blanks to complete the verse. Then, discuss the questions on the back. For Lesson 1, you will look up 2 Timothy 2:19.

**SuperVerse:** Superbook Rebuild (5 minutes)

**Objective:** Memorize the SuperVerse with a group activity.

- Nehemiah was not moved or shaken when his enemies called him a fool to try to rebuild the wall. Even though they mocked him, Nehemiah chose to believe he would succeed with God’s help.
- In this game, you are going to rebuild the SuperVerse with your bricks. You are going to lay your bricks like the foundation of a building—with the words of the SuperVerse in order, all in a row.

**Prayer:** Humble Prayers (5 minutes)

**Objective:** Communicate with God.

- Nehemiah mourned and wept when he heard the news about his homeland. Day and night Nehemiah went to the Lord in prayer. He humbly confessed not only his own sins, but also the sins of the people of Israel.
- Let’s take time to do it right now. We want to ask God to forgive our sins and change people’s hearts so He can heal and restore our land. Have children bow their heads. Say a one-sentence prayer to begin, then go around the circle and allow children to say a short prayer for the nation.

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES (REFER TO THE LESSON GUIDE FOR DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS)

**Building Game:** Play a game to rebuild sections of walls. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

**Review Game:** Play a game to review the Bible story. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

**Working Activity:** Race to find verses and fill in the blanks. | **Grades 4–6** | 15 min

**Gates Game:** Repair Jerusalem’s gates with a relay race. | **Grades 1–6** | 15 min

**Verse Volley:** Review the SuperVerse with a group activity. | **Grades 1–6** | 10 min

### Game Materials

#### Needed:

- A small ball (tennis ball, rubber ball) for each team of four children tables
- Whiteboard and marker; or chalkboard and chalk

### Teaching Materials Needed:

- Goblet or cup
- Construction hat (hard hat)
- Calendar with one page per month
- Bible or the Superbook Bible App
- Discipleship Challenge materials:
- Faith Wall Pattern and Stones Pattern
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Children’s scissors

### SuperVerse Materials

#### Needed:

- SuperVerse Bricks
- Whiteboard and marker, or chalkboard and chalk
- Cardstock or paper
- Scissors
- Sealable sandwich bags or paperclips to hold each set of SuperVerse Bricks together, one for every two children plus extras
- Bibles or the Superbook Bible App

### Prayer Materials Needed:

- Bible or the Superbook Bible App