

NEHEMIAH 2-7

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

The book of Nehemiah is about the rebuilding of the walls in Jerusalem and the restoration of the people back to God. Nehemiah was the **cupbearer** to the Persian king, Artaxerxes. A cupbearer was not the best job. He tasted the king's wine before he did to make sure that it was not poisonous. The king saw that Nehemiah was sad. He noticed the cupbearer. Nehemiah prayed and bravely asked the king Artaxerxes to send him to Jerusalem to rebuild it. It was a bold move! God answered his prayer. The king agreed to let Nehemiah go and even sent an army to go with him. When God is behind something, His plans cannot be broken, and He sends an army to accomplish His will!

As a reminder, Nehemiah was just a cup bearer! He was not the king. He did not have any fancy title, wasn't a certain age, or was not in a position of power. He was the cupbearer. A cupbearer is not the best job. 1 Timothy 4:12 tells us, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." We do not have to be a certain age, or in a certain position to make a difference in our generation. God wants to use us! We can be bold for the gospel everywhere we go!

Nehemiah gathered the people to build the walls and they got to work! As they build the wall, Nehemiah faces opposition. There was this guy named Tobiah, who made fun of them. Tobiah says, "What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!" That is pretty dramatic! Nehemiah trusted God and told the people: "Don't be afraid of your enemies. Remember the Lord. He is great and powerful." Nehemiah prayed and asked God for help, and the people kept working.

In just fifty-two days, the entire wall was finished! That is a miracle! Nehemiah was a project manager who led a whole group of people to build a 2.4-mile wall, 8 feet deep and 12 feet high! Nehemiah had confidence in God despite opposition. Nehemiah did not let the enemy get in the way of the work that God called him to do. He had a confidence trust in God despite what other people thought about him. Like Nehemiah, we can have confidence in God despite opposition we face!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We can have confidence in God despite opposition we face
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nehemiah commissioned • Rebuilding of the walls • Opposition to the work • The walls completed
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nehemiah 2:18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ “They replied, ‘Let us start rebuilding.’ So they began this good work.” • Nehemiah 4:14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ “Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome...” • Nehemiah 6:16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ “They realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cupbearer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Tasting the king’s wine before to make sure that it was not poisonous

Reflection Questions

1.	What did Nehemiah ask the king to do?
2.	What does Nehemiah being a cupbearer teach us?
3.	How can you have confidence in God despite people not always encouraging you?