

## Teaching Plan - Nehemiah, Friend of God

**Aim** - To show that we need to work together as a team - and that action and prayer go together.



### Welcome



### Game

**Nehemiah says game** - (like Simon says but you may want to have it on a building theme - most of all keep it simple and fun). This game is about following instruction.

### And/or

**Building towers game** - divide into teams and give each team some building bricks (Duplo is great) - see who can build the best tower in a set time.



### Talk 1

Look at the towers - they are all good but not joined.  
Cities used to have a great big wall around them to keep them safe.  
Nehemiah had a plan to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem so that all the towers would be joined together - just like we need to be linked together to help each other and do God's work wherever we live.



**Bible reading:** Nehemiah 4: 15b- 20



## Drama

Need: Narrator, Nehemiah, 1 other speaker

People to build wall and **building bricks**

**Trumpet**

**Card** saying Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.

**Card** saying That wall is rubbish

**Drama**

Meet Nehemiah - just an ordinary guy - he had a family, he had a job, he had friends - he was doing okay. (Nehemiah gives thumbs up).

**What was his job?**

He was a cupbearer to the king? He tasted the wine before the king drank it?

**Get everyone to raise a toast and say "Cheers everyone"**

Nehemiah heard some bad news from his brother - his home city of Jerusalem was in a big mess - the city walls were all broken down.

Nehemiah said - **I'm going to rebuild the walls.** (*Hold up Card*)

**Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.**

Nehemiah made a plan and then got everyone working to build the walls in their own part of the city. (*Hold up Card*) **Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.**

Not everyone liked Nehemiah - they laughed at his wall and said - (*Hold up Card*) **that wall is rubbish - but it wasn't.** (*Hold up Card*) **Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.**

The workers got tired - they felt they could not do the work - Nehemiah said - **yes we can.** (*Hold up Card*) **Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.**

Nehemiah decided that some people would be the guards (Guards salute) - watching, listening for the enemy coming and some people would be the builders. It was a good plan. (Hold up Card) Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.

Nehemiah told the people when you hear the trumpet there is big trouble around - everybody stop work and pray and our God will fight for us. (Hold up Card) Nehemiah loved God and asked him to help and God did.

It was amazing - the walls were all built - and in record time - time for a party to celebrate.



## Talk 2

Nehemiah - what a hero and a great example for us. Nehemiah knew that God had given him a job to do and he got on and did it.

Nehemiah had lots of great qualities - he was organized, he was an encourager and he was good at building teams so that people would work together. Nehemiah got the job done. But Nehemiah knew he could not do this job without God's help. He prayed and then did it, prayed and then did it. He got the people he was working with to do the same - sometimes they were the guards and sometimes they were the builders.

What does that mean for us?

- That we need each other - we're in God's team and he has a job for us wherever we live.
- No-one is more important than anyone else - all are needed to do the work.
- Sometimes people will laugh at us when we try to do a job for God - In Nehemiah story when that happened, they worked harder and prayed more.
- When we have a job to do for God, we should ask other people to pray for us so that we can do it well.
- And sometimes we will be the ones doing the praying when other people are working hard and maybe feeling tired.

- When we work together praying and doing praying and doing the Bible says our God will fight for us - so if we are in God's team, we have God on our side - nothing could be better than that.
- Let's take just a moment to focus on the words "our God will fight for us"



### Prayer Time

Take time to pray for people in the work they are involved in - this can be paid work, volunteering or just the small things they do to help others every day.



### Pairs Game

Ant and ..... Dec  
 Adam and ..... Eve  
 Ice cream and ..... Jelly  
 Fish and .....chips  
 Frankie and..... Bennys  
 Jack and ..... Jill  
 Tom and ..... Jerry  
 Batman and ..... Robin  
 Tarzan and ..... Jane  
 Prayer and ..... action (or do it)



### Possible Craft

Give everyone a rectangle of card to represent a brick - write name on it with help as needed and then decorate brick - will show that we are all individuals. Then blu-tack them on to a large sheet of paper to build a wall. If you blu-tack them rather than glue people can take them away at the end.



## Possible Songs

We are here together (Prospects)  
Come on and celebrate  
Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia, Praise ye the Lord  
Jesus love is very wonderful  
Your love is a perfect love (Prospects)  
The Father himself loves you (Prospects)  
Rise and shine and give God the glory glory (chorus only)  
Bind us together.