

hopekids

4/5th - November 30



Today's Bible Story: Nehemiah • *Nehemiah 1–4, 6:1-15*

Conversation Starter: What do you need help with?

Today's Bottom Line: God can help you do big things.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.* Isaiah 40:31 (NIRV)

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive
- Have a couple students be door greeters, a couple more help with communion in the big church and a few more to volunteer to stay and help with the littles once we finish in the elementary room.

At the start, spend this time playing games with the students or talking to them about how their week went.

This is the get to know your students time.

9:05/10:50 Leave for the Elementary Room

9:45/11:30 Leave for the Merge room



Please take time to Pray!

Communion

What You Do:

First - have one of the students pass out communion once everyone is seated.

Discuss communions and the importance of taking it and have one of the students pray.

Courage Obstacle Course

What You Need:

- ☐ Floor tape
- ☐ Prepared index cards with obstacles written on them
- ☐ Cones and other obstacle course items

What You Do:

- Set up a simple obstacle course in your group area.
- Use floor tape to mark a start and finish line for the course.
- Lay the index cards in various places in the course.
- Explain that in the obstacle course, there are cards with challenges Nehemiah faced.
- Instruct the kids to line up behind the start line. Let them race through the course one at a time.
- As kids move through, encourage each kid to pause at one of the index cards and read the obstacle card aloud.
- When the kid reads an obstacle from an index card, pause and ask the questions that correspond to that specific obstacle.
- Encourage the kids who complete the course later to choose an index card that has not been chosen, or hasn't been chosen as often.
- Let kids share and encourage each other to "finish the course."

Questions for Each Obstacle:

- Fear:
 - "What did Nehemiah do when he was afraid?" (*He prayed and kept going. For example, he asked the king for what he needed, even though he was scared.*)
 - "What could you pray if you are facing something big and you are afraid?"
- Enemies:

- “How did Nehemiah respond when enemies were threatening to attack him?” (*He asked God for help and stationed people to get ready to fight.*)
- “What can you pray when someone is making fun of you?”
- Exhaustion:
 - “How did Nehemiah respond when he was tired?” (*He kept going because he knew the work he was doing was good.*)
 - “What can you pray to God when you’re tired of doing good?”
- Discouragement:
 - “How did Nehemiah respond when his enemies tried to convince him to give up?” (*He asked God to make him strong to finish the work.*)
 - “How do you encourage others when they want to quit?”

Ask:

- What do you need help with?
- Nehemiah went to God for everything he needed. What can you do to remind yourself that you can ask God for everything?
- How does knowing God goes with you through everything give you more confidence?
- What can you do to remind yourself that God is always with you?
- Who did Nehemiah go to for help first—God or people? Why do you think that matters?
- Nehemiah didn’t rebuild the wall alone. He needed help. God helped him through people. Who are the people God has put in your life to help you with big things?