

Learning to Lead

Nehemiah 2:9–20

Several factors contributed to Nehemiah's success in implementing God-sized dreams.

1. He Was _____ Behind the Scenes

Nehemiah 2:11–16

What was Nehemiah doing?

- A. He was silently _____ a plan
- B. He was doing _____

2. He _____ the People

Nehemiah 2:17–18

Four Elements of Leadership

- A. He _____ with the people
- B. He _____ the seriousness of the situation
- C. He calls them _____
- D. He gives a _____

3. He _____ Despite Opposition

Nehemiah 2:19–20

When God's people catch God's vision—mighty things happen in God's name.

For the Family

Review our story so far:

After hearing a report that Jerusalem was in ruins, Nehemiah spent many days praying and planning about what to do. He received permission from the king to go to Jerusalem and rebuild the city walls.

Read Nehemiah 2:9–20

Explain that Nehemiah traveled to Jerusalem, inspected the walls and rallied the people to rebuild them. The walls were needed to protect the people from invaders. That is why some people living in the area didn't want the walls rebuilt. They didn't want the people of Jerusalem to be safe. They tried to stop the rebuilding by insulting and challenging the people.

Read Nehemiah 2:19: *But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"*

Explain that sometimes when we do what God wants us to do, people who don't love God will try to stop us. They might tease us or insult us, hoping we will stop obeying God. They might tell us that we are going against what people want.

Share an example of a time you were obedient to God, even though people who don't love God gave you a hard time.

Read Nehemiah 2:20: *Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build ..."*

Explain that this is how Nehemiah responded to the taunts of God's enemies. He believed that God would give them success. He said that God's people would do what God wanted done.

Pray together that you will be obedient to God, even if people who don't love God give you a hard time. Thank God for helping you do the right thing, even when it is hard.