



SO BIG | WEEK 4 | MAY 25, 2025

## Preschool Lesson

# Nehemiah Asks for Help

**Bible Story:** *Nehemiah Asks for Help* • We can do big things when we work together • *Nehemiah 1-4; 6:1, 15*

**Memory Verse:** “I know that God helps me.” Psalm 54:4, NIV

**Key Question:** Who helps you do big things?

**Bottom Line:** God helps me do big things.

**Basic Truth:** I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*There was a time when learning how to tie our shoes was a big thing. Walking into a new preschool class was a big thing. And sleeping in our own bedroom by ourselves, that was a really big thing—like SO BIG! And now that we’re all grown up, the big things keep coming. God is going to give our preschoolers big things to do. God is going to give them little things to do. And whether it’s a big thing or a little thing, we want our preschoolers to know that they have the Lord our God to help them. God helps me do big things!*

**Story Focus:** We can do big things when we work together. Nehemiah hears that the wall around his home of Jerusalem is broken. He cries and fasts and prays for days. The king Nehemiah works for notices that Nehemiah is sad and asks him what’s wrong. Nehemiah tells the king about his home. With the king’s blessing, Nehemiah heads to Jerusalem to see what he can do. When he gets there, the job is SO BIG that he asks people for help. The result? The city wall is repaired, and Nehemiah and the people learn that God helps us do big things when we work together.

### Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → • You’re in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → • A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

### Morning Flow



## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

### OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your Small Group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

*Transition to Large Group...*

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

### SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

**LGL:** "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*Kids respond.*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (*List rules while counting on fingers*)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

“Can everybody follow those rules today? *(Kids respond.)* Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let’s say them all together! Are you ready?

1. **I am made by God.** What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
2. **I am loved by God no matter what.** What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
3. **I am made for a purpose!** What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*

“It’s time for our memory verse. Let’s watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!”

*Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.*

**‘I know** *(touch head with fingertips)*  
**that God** *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*  
**helps me,** *(place thumbs-up on opposite palm)*  
**Psalm 54:4.** *(Open hands like a book.)*

“Ok, now let’s sing and worship God!”

## WORSHIP

**(VIDEO: BIG, BIG THINGS; VERY BIG THINGS)**

Sing the worship songs together.

## INTRO SKETCH

**(Story Box with Beginner’s Bible, “Which is Bigger?” Picture for Current Week (W1 Elephant and Bunny, W2 Tree and Sticks, W3 Piano and Trumpet, W4 Stone Wall and Bricks)**

*LGL brings the story box with the Bible to the center of the room.*

“I have my story box ready. I’m SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let’s see what I have in here...”

*Pull out the Bible*

What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, it’s the Bible! The Bible is God’s word and God’s word is always true. The Bible has many stories that make one BIG story, and we (you and me) are part of that story. Let’s see what else is in our story box today.

*Pull out “Which is Bigger? Picture for Current Week.*

I have a picture. It has a question. The question is ‘Which is Bigger?’ What do you see in this picture? *(Pause for responses.)* That right! A stone wall and bricks. Tell me, which is bigger? The stone wall or the bricks. *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, the stone wall is bigger. Today we are going to hear a story about a man named Nehemiah and how God helped him do something BIG.

Let’s click on our listening ears (tug on each ear, one at a time, as you make a click, click sound),



let's put on our looking eyes (bring your hands, one at a time, to your eyes like binoculars as you say shook, shook) and let's put our hands that have been moving and praising Jesus quietly in our laps.

Now we are ready. Let's watch today's true Bible story."

## WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"Wow! That was an amazing story! What was the big thing that Nehemiah did in the story? He fixed the wall. Did he fix it by himself? *(Pause for responses.)* No, he asks for help. The people work together to fix the wall. God helped them do something big. We are learning this month that **[Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!**

When I ask, 'Who helps you do big things?' I want you to say, **[Bottom Line] 'God helps me do big things.'** Are you ready? *(Pause for responses.)* 'Who helps you do big things?' **[Bottom Line] 'God helps me do big things.'** YES! **[Bottom Line] God helps me do big things."**

## SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.' The Holy Spirit is God. God will help each of us do big things.

## PRAY

"Let's get our hands ready to pray. *Open them close them, open them close them, give a little clap. Open them, close them, open them, close them, fold them in your lap.*

God, thank You for helping us do big things just like You helped Nehemiah. You gave him people to help him, and You give us people to help us do big things, too. We love You. In Jesus' name."

## TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

## SMALL GROUP

**Bible Story:** *Nehemiah Asks for Help* • We can do big things when we work together • *Nehemiah 1-4; 6:1, 15*

**Memory Verse:** “I know that God helps me.” Psalm 54:4, NIV

**Key Question:** Who helps you do big things?

**Bottom Line:** God helps me do big things.

**Basic Truth:** I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

### PUT IT TOGETHER (2's-5's)

(“Put It Together” Activity Page Printed on 11x17 – 1 per group)

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy “Put It Together” on 11x17-inch paper and cut, one per Small Group.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to work together to complete the puzzle. Repeat as time and interest allow.

*After the Activity:* Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “Friends, come over here with me. I have a puzzle I need your help with.”

*During the Activity:* “These are all the pieces to our puzzle. If we work together, we can figure out how to put it together and see the big picture! So, will you help me? Okay, let’s see. Do these two pieces fit together? (*Put two pieces together that don’t fit.*) No, those don’t fit together. What about these two? (*Place two other pieces together that don’t fit.*) Okay, what about these two pieces? (*Put two pieces together that fit.*) Yes! Those two pieces fit together! Now, let’s keep working together to put it all together. (*Pause.*) Wow, friends, we did it! You all worked together and helped me finish the puzzle!”

*After the Activity:* “We can do so much when we work together! Nehemiah and God’s people worked together to fix the wall around Jerusalem. God helped them do big things, and God helps you and me do big things too! **Who helps you do big things? [Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!**”

### WE NEED YOU (2's-5's)

(No Supplies)

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Stand in an open area of your activity space.

*During the Activity:* Ask children to join you by calling out names or a clothing item, and link arms to make a wall.

*After the Activity:* Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

### **What You Say:**

Before the Activity: “Hey, friends, I am all alone! I need people to join me. Listen closely for me to call you over.”

*During the Activity:* “If you are wearing a [clothing item], I need you! *(Pause.)* Yes! [Child’s name] I need you! Link arms with me. *(Pause.)* We still need more people. If you are wearing a [clothing item], we need you! *(Continue until all children are in the group.)* Look, all of us are together! When we are all linked together, we look like a big wall. On the count of three, I want everyone to scatter, and we’ll play again! One, two, three! *(Repeat as desired.)*”

*After the Activity:* “In our Bible Story, Nehemiah had a big job to do, but he couldn’t do it alone. He needed lots of people to help him. Nehemiah had a big job, but God helped him do big things. **Who helps you do big things? [Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!**”

## **MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS**

**(Memory Verse Motions Poster – 1 per group)**

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

**‘I know** *(touch head with fingertips)*  
**that God** *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)*  
**helps me,’** *(place thumbs-up on opposite palm)*  
**Psalm 54:4.** *(Open hands like a book.)*

## **PRAY**

“Let’s pray together. *(Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.”)*

God thank You for giving us people to help us do big things just like You helped Nehemiah. When we have to do a big thing, we know You will help us. We love You. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

## **PARENT PICK UP ACTIVITY – COLORING PAGE**

**(“Help, Please” Activity Page – 1 per child, Crayons)**

### **What You Do:**

*During the Activity:* Give each child a copy of the “Help, Please” activity page. While you review the Bible Story, encourage children to help Nehemiah fix the broken wall by coloring the places where the wall is missing.

### **What You Say:**

*During the Activity:* “Look at the picture. Do you see the places in the wall that are missing? You are going to use a crayon of your choice to color and fill in the holes and fix the wall! *(While the children work)* Nehemiah was from Jerusalem. It had a wall, like the one in your picture. The wall went all the way around the city to protect the people who lived there. There was one big

problem. There were a lot of broken places in the wall, and the people were not protected anymore. Nehemiah asked the king if he could go home and help fix the wall so the city would be protected. And the king said yes! When Nehemiah got home, Nehemiah asked the people to help him fix the wall. It was a big job, but they all worked together to fix it! Yay! Sometimes we need to ask for help to do big things, like Nehemiah did. When we need help, we can talk to God about it, because God helps us do big things! **Who helps you do big things? [Bottom Line] God helps me do big things!"**

## CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

**(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)**

Hand out placemats and encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.