

God Is Faithful



3.3 God Is Faithful

God's people lived in a land that wasn't their own for many years. Among them was a man named Nehemiah. He worked for the king of Persia. Nehemiah heard that his homeland of Jerusalem was in need of major repairs. He prayed to God that he would find favor with the king. He asked the king to allow him to return to help rebuild the walls of the city. The king kindly granted him permission and gave him everything he needed to rebuild the walls. When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem, he led the people. Together, God's people began to rebuild the wall that once surrounded the city. Enemies of Israel tried to stop them from building, but God wouldn't let them harm His people or the rebuilding. Miraculously, the wall was rebuilt in just 52 days! To celebrate, God's people gathered to read God's Word as they remembered God's faithfulness and how He kept His promise to bring them home.

The following passages have been provided for you to model to the children in your small group how to look for truth in Scripture. Some verses may be engaging for your children while others may simply aid in your preparation to lead this time of discussion. Consider reading from the NIV or NLT versions of the Bible.

Questions:

1. Read Nehemiah 1:3–4. **How did Nehemiah respond when he heard the people of Jerusalem were in trouble?** (He wept, prayed, and fasted before the Lord.)
2. Read Nehemiah 2:7–9. **How did the king respond to Nehemiah's request to return home?** (He let him go. The king provided protection for Nehemiah and gave him materials to rebuild the wall.)
3. Read Nehemiah 6:15–16. **How was the wall completed so quickly? What did Israel's enemies think?** (God was with His people; the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their confidence.)
4. Read Nehemiah 8:1–3, 6. **What did the Israelites do after the wall was built?** (They came together and listened to Ezra read from God's Word. Then they praised God for all He had done.)
5. **What part do you think you can play in The Big God Story?**