

City LG—September 25th-27th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: I Just Want to Celebrate (The Wall Is Rebuilt) • *Nehemiah 3–4, 6:15-16, 8:1-17*

Today's Bottom Line: Look for ways to celebrate what God has done.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord.* Colossians 3:23a (NIRV)

WORSHIP: Something Good and Believe It

"Hello, friends! We've been looking all month at the story of Nehemiah. (*Hold up Bible.*) And today, we get to see how it all turned out!

"When we started, Nehemiah was living in the land of Persia. He had an important job as cupbearer to the king. But then he heard that the city walls of Jerusalem were broken and the people weren't safe. So Nehemiah traveled to Jerusalem to see the broken-down walls for himself. He knew that something needed to be done . . . so he took initiative to help! He rallied the people of Jerusalem to help rebuild their city.

"The work must have seemed nearly impossible—especially when the workers faced trouble from people in the lands around them and when Nehemiah had to tell the officials to stop charging the people extra to pay for food. But through all those challenges, God was with His people. In the end, the people stayed focused on the job they had to do. In 52 days, they finished the city wall along with the towers and gates!"

"To tell you what happened next, let's take a look at this week's video!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 5:00)

"The people were filled with joy as they reconnected with God and began to understand how much He loved them. God's people hadn't celebrated the Feast of Booths in this way in hundreds of years!

"Each day, Ezra read more of God's laws to them. And the people began to understand all that God had planned for them. They had already seen how God had helped them rebuild the city of Jerusalem, and they knew that God would be with them in the future, too. God is with US, just like He was with His people back then. He LOVES us. He's always there to help us. **We can trust Him no matter what!** We can take the initiative to thank God and celebrate what He's done in our lives.

"We can do this.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "Look for ways to celebrate what God has done.

"Let's talk to God and thank Him for all that He's done for us."

PRAY: "Dear God, thank You for being so good to us. You're always there to help us—just like You were with Nehemiah and the people as they rebuilt the city of Jerusalem. Help us take the initiative to celebrate all the things You've done in our lives AND all the things You're doing in our lives, right now! Help us remember to thank You and give You the honor You deserve. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"There are so many reasons that we can celebrate what God has done in our lives. God has good plans for us, just like He had good plans for His people all throughout history. He helps us make wise choices. He helps us make things right with others. He LOVES us, and He's always with us—no matter what!

“Every day, let’s remember to do this.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Look for ways to celebrate what God has done.

“When we look back at God’s Story in the Bible (*hold up Bible*), we can see all the amazing things God has done in the past. We can see how God led His people through all kinds of challenges. We can see how He made each person in His image and how He has an important purpose for each and every one of us. We can see how God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus to be our Savior!

“When we think of all that God has done, it makes us want to celebrate. We can take the initiative to do that, any time! It doesn’t have to be a holiday, like Christmas or Easter. Every day, we can choose to be grateful and tell God how thankful we are for His love.

“Let’s keep the celebration going with this fun Music Video before we head to Small Groups. Check it out!”

CG: Whatever it Takes Music Video (Runtime: 3:00)

Dismiss kids to their small groups after leading offering.

OFFERING:

Here in Parkview Kids, we bring our offering each week to help support (your Campus Child) learn more about Jesus just like we do here in Parkview Kids. Here’s a picture of (your Campus Child)! If you brought your offering, you can bring it up now!”

Orland Park: Michael and Valeri, New Lenox: Daniel, Homer Glen: Victor