



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FOLD



Unit 18 • Session 1

## THE WALLS REBUILT

Nehemiah 1-6

### WHAT IS THE BIBLE ABOUT? THE BIBLE IS THE STORY OF GOD'S PLAN TO SAVE PEOPLE THROUGH JESUS.

Nehemiah was the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia. One day, Nehemiah heard that the people of God in Jerusalem were in trouble. Nehemiah prayed to God, saying, "God, please hear my prayer for your people. I confess that we have sinned against you. Please forgive us, and give me favor in the eyes of the king."

King Artaxerxes noticed that Nehemiah looked sad and asked him what was wrong. Nehemiah told him that he was sad because Jerusalem was in ruins. Nehemiah said, "If it pleases the king, please send me to Jerusalem so that I may rebuild it." The king agreed to this request.

When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he went to all the people and said, "You see the trouble we are in. Jerusalem lies in ruins. Come, let's rebuild the wall so we will no longer be shameful."

The people started building, but some enemies, Sanballat and Tobiah, were not happy. They planned to attack Jerusalem so the building would stop. So, the people prayed to God and appointed a guard to protect them day and night. Then Sanballat and Tobiah started telling lies about the people of God. They said God's people planned to rebel against King Artaxerxes. God's people did not allow these enemies to stop them from building. The people completed the wall in fifty-two days.

**Christ Connection:** God's enemies tried to stop His people, but they still rebuilt the wall. God's enemies tried to stop Jesus by killing Him, but God planned for Jesus' death and resurrection to be the only way for people to be saved.

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