

FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 21, 2020

BIBLE STORY:

Nehemiah 1-2

BIBLE VERSE:

Psalm 54:2

BABIES-PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

Nehemiah prayed for God's help.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God hears our prayers. (YK)

When we pray we can praise God, confess our sin, and seek His help because we know that God hears us. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Proverbs 3:21-35

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 3:27

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Proverbs 10:1-10*

MONDAY: *Proverbs 10:11-22*

TUESDAY: *Proverbs 10:23-32*

WEDNESDAY: *Proverbs 11:1-10*

THURSDAY: *Proverbs 11:11-21*

FRIDAY: *Proverbs 11:22-31*

SATURDAY: *Proverbs 12:1-11*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study Nehemiah and Proverbs together as a family:



- **Home again.** Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king of Persia. The cupbearer during this time was a highly regarded position, and most times, the king only filled that position with someone whom he completely trusted. That Nehemiah, a Jew, had risen to such a position in the kingdom was a work of God. What made the job so tricky? The king's food and beverage would be tasted by the cupbearer who, if he did not die, would notify the king that the king's food was free from poison and acceptable for eating. It was not a sought after job, but one that would come with the benefit of being trusted by the king.
- **News from Jerusalem.** The exiles had been allowed to return a few years before. Nehemiah had received a visitor from Jerusalem identifying the condition of the city and specifically the deplorable situation of the walls. Nehemiah knew the city was vulnerable if the walls were in ruins so he decided to find a way to return and help make the walls strong again. Nehemiah had a problem, however. The king had asked for all building in Jerusalem to stop. If Nehemiah was to repair the walls, he would need permission from the king.
- **Faithful return.** Nehemiah prayed and trusted God would help him. One day, the king noticed Nehemiah was sad and asked him why. Through prayer God gave Nehemiah an opportunity to speak to the king. God heard Nehemiah's prayer, and God hears our prayers. Nehemiah asked the king to be allowed to return to Jerusalem and help rebuild the broken-down walls around the city. God favored Nehemiah, and the king allowed him to return. The king also gave Nehemiah help along the way to complete his task.
- **Confidence gained.** Nehemiah trusted God would provide a way for him to return and God did. Solomon, in Proverbs 3, also encouraged the people to trust in God who would provide rest from fear. Nehemiah did not fear the king as he approached because he knew that if God wanted the walls rebuilt around Jerusalem, God would provide a way. Believers today can heed the words of Solomon who said God offers His peace to those who trust in Him.