LESSON 20

NEHEMIAH INSPECTS THE RUINED CITY



Aim: **To show the children how Nehemiah made careful plans and so encouraged the people in their faith in God that they were ready to cooperate with him.**

Scripture Reading: **Nehemiah 2:9-20**

Memory Verse: **Exodus 20:14 (the Ten Commandments) "You shall not commit adultery."**

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

Think of something you have had to do that was very difficult. How did you go about it? Did you first pray? Did you make careful plans? Did you get other people to help you?

Main Points of the Lesson

1. Nehemiah had a very difficult job to do and he had all these preparations beforehand. He had to go and help the people of Jerusalem rebuild their city. They needed to do the walls first so that the city would be safe. But they were discouraged. The job was so big and there was no-one to help them; instead, they had many enemies (Neh 2:10).
2. Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem with his building supplies. For the first three days he kept quiet about what God had sent him to do. **Show Picture 20.** Before he talked about it he carefully inspected the city at night, when nobody could see him and he could work in peace (2:11-12).
3. The city was in ruins (2:13-15). **Describe what Nehemiah saw.**
4. Then Nehemiah called the local leaders together and told them what he had done. He told them that the city was in a bad state. However, he also testified to them how God had helped him. That encouraged them in their faith, and they were ready to begin the big work of rebuilding the walls (2:16-18).
5. There were powerful enemies who laughed at the Jews and their building project, but Nehemiah knew God was with them (2:19-20).

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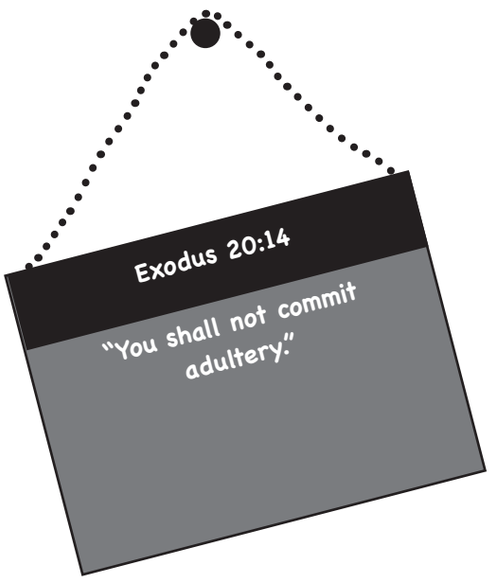


Our Response to the Story

By sharing with them the way God had blessed him, Nehemiah was able to encourage the people of Jerusalem and give them a vision of hope. **This is an opportunity for you to briefly share your own testimony with the class, or give examples of how God has blessed other members of the local church.**

Instil the Memory Verse

Review all the verses of Exodus 20 learnt so far.



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