

XXXIX

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Leader Conversation Guide – Nehemiah

Main Idea

The story of Nehemiah is one of vision, prayer, and persistence in the face of great challenges. When Nehemiah learned of Jerusalem's broken walls, his heart was moved with compassion. He responded with prayer, fasting, and bold action. His journey shows us that God can do incredible things through people who embrace His purpose, maintain a godly perspective, pray continually, and refuse to give up. As we begin our discussion, let's consider how God might be calling us to step into His plans with courage and perseverance. Whatever obstacles we face, His power at work within us can accomplish far more than we could ever ask or imagine.

**So on October 2 the wall was finished
just fifty-two days after we had begun.**

NEHEMIAH 6:15

Make It Practical

God accomplishes great things through people with a compelling purpose.

- Nehemiah was deeply moved by the brokenness of his city and responded with passion and purpose.
- Nehemiah 1:4; Ephesians 1:11

A clear perspective keeps us focused on God's power, not our limitations.

- Nehemiah depended on God's favor and strength rather than his own ability.
- Nehemiah 2:8; John 15:5

Persistent prayer and courage are essential for fulfilling God's calling.

- Nehemiah's continual prayer and determination allowed him to overcome obstacles and complete the work.
- Nehemiah 6:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Galatians 6:9

Talk About It

Nehemiah was driven by a compelling purpose when he heard about the broken walls of Jerusalem.

- Nehemiah 1:4
- What is a situation in your life or in the world that stirs your heart? How might God be calling you to respond?

Nehemiah depended on God's favor and strength, not his own abilities.

- Nehemiah 2:8; John 15:5
- How can we remind ourselves to stay focused on God's power rather than our limitations when facing challenges?

Nehemiah's success came through persistent prayer and courageous determination.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Galatians 6:9
- In what areas of your life do you feel tempted to give up? How can prayer help you persevere?

The only difference between people who do very little for God and people who change an entire generation is the determination to never quit.

Prayer

Father, thank You for the example of Nehemiah, a man who sought You, trusted You, and never gave up. Help us to live with purpose, to keep our eyes on You, and to stay faithful in prayer. Give us courage to face challenges and strength to keep going, knowing that You are with us. May Your power work through us to accomplish far more than we could ever imagine. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Next Steps

Identify a God-given purpose to pursue.

- Take time this week to pray and reflect on where God is stirring your heart—whether in your family, church, or community—and ask Him to show you how to step into that purpose.

Commit to daily prayer for strength and guidance.

- Set aside intentional time each day to seek God, asking for His help to stay focused on His power rather than your own limitations.

Choose one area where you're tempted to quit, and persevere.

- Ask God for renewed courage to stay the course, trusting that in His timing, you will see the fruit of your faithfulness.