



“Gonna Take a Miracle” Nehemiah 2:11-20

We continue our study of the Old Testament book of Nehemiah this week.

The story of Nehemiah, who left the comforts of home to help his people rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, is an inspiring one. It’s very tempting, however, to view his book as little more than a primer on leadership, or a story about a great man of faith and determination. While there is much to admire in Nehemiah and much to learn about leadership from his story, let’s go deeper than that.

The famed British preacher, Charles H. Spurgeon, once told a student, “Don’t you know, young man, that from every town and every village and every hamlet in England, wherever it may be, there is a road to London? So from every text in Scripture there is a road towards the great metropolis, Christ. And my dear brother, your business is, when you get to a text, to say, ‘Now what is the road to Christ?’”

I pray these weekly discussion guides will help you, your family, or your Life Group find the road to Christ in the book of Nehemiah.



KNOWING GOD

Read **Nehemiah 2:11-20**. As we learned last week, Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king of Persia. But upon receiving word of his people’s distress back in Jerusalem, he decided to go there and bring renewal to the city. This week’s passage describes Nehemiah’s first steps upon his arrival in Jerusalem. He finds it “in ruins, and its gates...burned with fire” (vs. 17). Why and by whom had Jerusalem been destroyed? (For help, read 2 Chronicles 36:15-21.)

What “big ideas” or themes of the Bible do you find in this passage?

How do you see the grace of God at work in sending Nehemiah to Jerusalem?



GROWING TOGETHER

Talk about a time recently when you were in charge of a project, event, or presentation, or had to take the lead in solving a problem. (Maybe you find yourself in such a situation right now!) How did your approach compare or contrast with that of Nehemiah in vss. 11-18? Do you gain

any insights on leadership from Nehemiah's example that may be of help in the future?

SERMON NOTES



SERVING OTHERS

When Nehemiah invited his fellow Jews to join him in rebuilding Jerusalem's walls, they gladly assented: "Let us start rebuilding!" (vs. 18). Perhaps you were asked to serve at church or somewhere else recently. Did you respond with a similar positive attitude? Why or why not?

Verse 19 says that Nehemiah's leadership quickly met with opposition. Have you run into discouraging roadblocks in your service to Christ, church, or community lately? If so, how should you handle it?



IN YOUR FAMILY...

Nehemiah needed a miracle if his vision for Jerusalem was going to become a reality. What miracles does your family need? Express your desires to God in prayer. Then decide on steps you will take to participate with God in his work.