

LIFE GROUP STUDY

Series Big Idea: When Jerusalem’s city walls were crumbling and the hearts of the people were failing, God raised up a leader of unwavering faith and unshakable courage. Through Nehemiah’s story, we learn that it takes courage to embrace God-sized dreams and rest in his unfailing love, and the results are oftentimes unimaginable.

Pull Together. Tell each other about your first childhood chore and then your first paying job. Share one of the thoughts that caught your attention from the message on Sunday. Tell why that part stood out to you.

Reflect on the Biblical Story

Nehemiah 1:1 - 2:5

What elements of Nehemiah’s position and his responsibilities may have required courage?
(Neh. 2:1-5)

As you review Nehemiah 1:2-4, describe how you can see Nehemiah’s heart expanding to new areas as he seeks to understand the condition of the Jewish people in Jerusalem.

Before Nehemiah can even express the specifics of his “God-sized” dream, what “God-sized challenge” does Nehemiah feel? (Neh. 1:4)

How does Nehemiah’s “steward’s heart” show up in this prayer in verses 1:5-11 (read “Understanding the steward’s role”)?

What do you learn about God from Nehemiah’s prayer?

Discuss together these implications:

- We have a responsibility to be good managers of the many resources God has given us.
- Good management of God’s resources requires moments of great courage.
- Caring for God’s resources and partnering with him in his work is an incredible privilege.

Responding to God's Story

1. Do you see yourself as God's trusted partner in the management of his resources? How would you increase your role in this partnership?

2. As you look at God's mission here at First Christian, what dreams and challenges do you need to face with courage?

3. Pray that God will help you manage his resources to accomplish his great work.

Prayer:

Lord, open my eyes to the brokenness in the world around me. Open my heart to the fullness of your mission right around me. Open my hands to release my grip on the resources you have given me. Captivate my life with your great mission to reflect your glory and goodness in my generation. I pray in Jesus' name.