



SMALL GROUPS

Developing deep rooted relationships with God and each other



Winter Small Groups

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Scott & Jan Carpenter
587 Scott Drive, Coldwater
Contact: [Melissa Houtz](#)
(517) 617-5797

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Tijuana Missions
Hosts: Solano and Jennie deAraujo
974 Dewsenberry Road, Bronson
Contact: [Frank Cabrera](#)
(517) 369-9783

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Jim and Anna Mae Wickey
389 Bawden Road, Bronson
Contact: [Pastor Jim](#)
(517) 756-8001

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Bill and Linda Penn
247 West Nettleman Road, Bronson
Contact: [Brandon Carpenter](#)
989-277-5988
(kid-friendly)



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Small Group Discussion Guide

week of 03/20/17

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer. Ask God to use your study of Nehemiah to encourage group members to seek God's direction for any "special projects" he might want accomplished through you.

God raises up Nehemiah as a major contributor to the rebuilding of Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile. Along with Ezra, Nehemiah is used by God to restore a sense of national security and to reinforce adherence to the law of Moses and the right worship of God as the soul of Israel's national identity. Nehemiah is most recognized, however, for helping to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem.

- I. Read [Nehemiah 1:1-4](#). The report from Jerusalem is not good. How does Hanani describe the situation? What is Nehemiah's response? Now read his prayer in [Nehemiah 1:5-11](#). How does Nehemiah view God? Why does he confess the sins of his ancestors? Should we do the same today? What promises of God does Nehemiah refer to?
- II. In Chapter two, Nehemiah creates a plan of action. Read [Nehemiah 2:1-9](#). Outline the steps he follows to address the challenge of rebuilding the Jerusalem wall. What should our ultimate motive for doing good be today? Note [1 Corinthians 10:31](#), [Colossians 3:17](#).
- III. Now read [Nehemiah 2:11-18](#). What steps does Nehemiah follow next? How does he seek to motivate and involve the citizens of Jerusalem to get to work? Notice the part of his strategy for recruiting workers according to the phrase -- in front of his house (See [Nehemiah 3:10, 23,28-29](#)). Why was this a smart way to delegate the work?
- IV. Nehemiah met stark opposition from two non-Jewish leaders of the region, Sanballat and Tobiah. Note [Nehemiah 2:10, 19-20](#). Why might these men have opposed the Jews in Jerusalem? How does Nehemiah counter them according to [Nehemiah 4:4-5,9,13-23](#)? How should we counter opposition as Christians today?
- V. The wall is completed in 52 days ([Nehemiah 6:15](#)). What principles of leadership for completing tasks can we draw from Nehemiah's example? (You should be able to outline several). Notice the spiritual awakening that followed the building of the city walls ([Nehemiah 12:27,43](#)) Does spiritual growth occur when God's people work hard together to accomplish meaningful tasks? Any examples? Could something like this occur for us at Bethel Gilead? .

Close your group by asking God to strengthen our resolve as a church to defend his honor against godlessness in our culture. Ask God to show us how we can better work together to accomplish any work he has for us to do.

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