



## WEEK FIVE – NOVEMBER 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Nehemiah* | *Nehemiah 1-4; 6:1-15*

**Bottom Line:** *God can help you do big things.*

**Memory Verse:** *“Those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.”- Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)*

**Insight:** *Identity Based on God’s Image – I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth*

**Application:** *Confidence – Living like you believe God is with you*

**Series Overview:** God chose a people and promised through them to bless the whole world. And God fulfilled that promise by sending Jesus to rescue and redeem us. When we begin to understand this story and allow it to inform everything in our lives, we can live from a place of quiet confidence, knowing God is always with us and is able to work every single thing we face into a beautiful pattern for our good. This month, we’re exploring some larger-than-life characters from God’s story who lived during the decline of Israel and Judah and the following exile. These individuals chose to—or failed to—place the full weight of their lives on trust in God. Through stories of Elijah, Jonah, Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah we see how making choices from a foundation of trust changes everything about the way you live

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**8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY**

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**Connection Centers**

*Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders*

**What You Need:** Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

**What You Do:**

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
  - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God that He goes with you through everything and helps you do even bigger things than you could do on your own. Recall an age-appropriate story about when you asked God for help, and He helped you do something bigger than you'd ever thought you'd be able to accomplish. Pray that kids understand that being obedient in the little things over time is a big thing. Ask God to help the kids learn how to go through all of life with Him so they will do all things together with Him!**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
  - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
    - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
  - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
  - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
  - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
    - ***“What is the nicest thing someone did for you this week?”***
    - ***“What is one thing that God made that you think is extra cool? (Like a sunset, a dog, or a tree”***
    - ***“Do you like to play outside or inside more when it's cold?”***

- *“Do you like hot chocolate or apple cider more?”*
- *“When you grow up, what is one thing you want to teach someone else how to do?”*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
  - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
    - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
  - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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**9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP**

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## **OPENING ACTIVITY**

**What You Need:** Magna Tiles

### **What You Do:**

- G Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Give each team a pile of blocks.
- Share the challenge:
  - Each group must attempt to build the tallest tower possible, but only one person can build at a time for 10 seconds.
- Use the timer to count off 10 seconds per builder.
- After 10 seconds, shout “Switch!” and instruct the next kid on each team to take over.
- Repeat several rounds until every kid gets a turn to build.
- Gather the kids to discuss.

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- Provide a seated option where kids can work together around a table instead of the floor.

**What You Say:**

“Way to go, friends! What a challenge. It took teamwork, focus, and patience. This reminds me of a job that God gave a man named Nehemiah. Nehemiah wasn’t even a builder, but God gave him a very big task to rebuild something that was broken.

**“In the true story we’ll hear from the Bible today, we’ll discover how Nehemiah trusted God to help him do something big, and God helped him every step of the way. Let’s go!”**

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**9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP**

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We wrap up with Nehemiah, who served as an advisor to King Artaxerxes. But when he received news that the walls of Jerusalem were broken down, Nehemiah’s heart broke, too. He boldly asked the king for permission to return to his homeland and rebuild. Once Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he discovered the job was bigger than he imagined. But with confidence that God would be with them, Nehemiah rallied the people for an epic building project.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP**

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**THE BLUEPRINT**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

**What You Need:** “Blueprint Stickers” Activity Page; 11 x 8.5 blueprint paper; Pencils; coloring supplies; rulers

**What You Do:**

- Gather the kids together around a flat surface.
- Give every kid a piece of blueprint paper.
- Set out the pencils, coloring supplies, and rulers.
- Say, “Today, you’re going to design a confidence blueprint! Nehemiah didn’t know how to build walls, but God gave him what he needed. Let’s imagine what big things God might help you to do!”
- Say, “What’s something big in your life that you want to do—but you know you’ll need God’s help with? It could be something that feels hard, scary, or way bigger than you.”
  - *Share examples like forgiving someone, making new friends, or talking about Jesus at school.*
- Encourage the kids to quietly think or whisper a prayer to God about it.
- Invite the kids to use the supplies to sketch what they’re asking for God’s help with.
  - *They can draw symbols, words, or various scenes.*
- Invite the kids to write a simple faith declaration on their blueprint.
  - *“God is my strength.”*
  - *“God can help me do big things.”*
  - *“I can do this with God’s help!”*
- ***[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time when you had to trust God with something big. How did God help you through it? What did you ask Him for at each step?)***

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- Complete this activity in pairs if it works better for your group.

**What You Say:**

“I love each of your blueprints! Nehemiah didn’t know how to build walls. BUT he *spent time pouring his heart out to God and asking for help*—and God gave him what he needed. That’s what confidence in God looks like. It’s not about knowing how everything will work. It’s about trusting that God is with you, that He is

bigger than anything you are facing, and He will help you do what He's put on your heart to do.

“But here's something even more amazing: When you choose to follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in you! That means you never have to face anything alone. You and God's very Spirit face whatever your life brings together every day. And He will help You! **God can help you do big things.**

“If you've already chosen to follow Jesus, that means God is already building something great in your life. And if you haven't made that decision yet but you're curious or have questions, you can always talk to a trusted adult or me. Saying yes to Jesus is the biggest, most important decision you'll ever make!”

## **VERSE ROLL**

### **[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]**

**What You Need:** Bibles; Assembled dice from the “Verse Roll” Activity Page; “Verse Cards” Activity Page; floor tape

### **What You Do:**

- Divide the kids into three teams.
- Mark three start lines with cones or floor tape.
- Mark three finish lines a few feet away from each start line.
- Scatter a set of “Verse Cards” Activity Pages at each team's finish line.
- Give each team a paper dice from the “Verse Roll” Activity Page and a Bible.
- Invite the teams to look up Isaiah 40:31 as a group using the Bible Navigation Tips.
- Encourage them to read the verse together.
- Discuss any words in Isaiah 40:31 that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
  - ***Finding verses for 2-3<sup>rd</sup> graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the*

*kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.*

- The kids in each team will take turns rolling the verse dice.
- After rolling the dice, the kid who rolled it is to retrieve the matching card from the finish line.
- If a kid rolls a phrase of the Memory Verse they've already collected, they may roll again.
- After all six phrases of the Memory Verse are collected, the teams are to work together to put the verse in order.
- Once everyone is finished, read the verse aloud and celebrate!

### **Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- For an activity with less movement, allow the teams to roll the dice at a table or on a tray and pick the cards from a stack instead of running.
- Encourage the teams to work together to support each other with reading the cards, or have a leader read the cards.

### **What You Say:**

“Great job, teams! Isaiah 40:31 reminds us that when we trust in God, He gives us strength. When we feel tired, nervous, or overwhelmed—God is with you! When you trust Jesus, God gives you new strength through the Holy Spirit. None of us has to be strong on our own. We can keep going because we can trust God to give us EVERYTHING we need to do big things!”

### **PRAYER TIME**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

**What You Need:** Index cards; coloring supplies

**What You Do:**

- Give every kid an index card.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Challenge the kids to think about something they need God’s help with.
- Invite them to write or draw it on their index card.
- Lead a short prayer, then give kids time to talk to God quietly or write their own prayer on the other side of the card.

**What You Say:**

*“God, thank You for being good and powerful! You were with Nehemiah, and we are so thankful You are with us too! You’ve made each of us SO uniquely, and we are so grateful. We want to live for You, God, so help us to do the big things You call us to do. YOU are strong when we feel weak, You are wise when we feel unsure—so remind us of those truths when we don’t feel confident. Help us to trust You and take the next brave step You ask us to do. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen!”*