Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

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Ages 3-10

Little Believers Tigrinya Bible Stories - Book 30

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Scene 1

[PICTURE: Nehemiah serving wine to the Persian king in a grand palace with golden pillars and silk curtains. Nehemiah wears servant robes and carries a golden cup. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

A long time ago, there lived a man named Nehemiah. He worked as the cupbearer to the great Persian king. His job was to taste the king's wine and serve him.

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(Qidmi buzuh amettat Nihimya zismu seb'ay nebere. Nisu nay nigus Faris saqi koynu yiserhh nebere. Sirhu ninigus weyni miqmasn migilgaln iyu neyru.)

Scene 2

[PICTURE: A traveler arriving at Nehemiah's home, looking dusty and tired from a long journey. He carries a small bag and has a worried expression. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

One day, Nehemiah's brother and some friends came from far-away Jerusalem. They brought very sad news about their beloved city.

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(Hade me'alti haw Nihimyan gele a'irukhun kab rihuq Iyerusalem metsu. Biza'iba fitwuti ketemawom azyu himaqi zena hizom metsu.)

Scene 3

[PICTURE: The travelers telling Nehemiah about Jerusalem. Their faces show sorrow as they describe the broken walls. Nehemiah listens with growing concern. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

"The walls of Jerusalem are broken down!" they said. "The gates have been burned with fire. The people there are in great trouble and shame."

"□□□ □□□□□□ □□□!" □□□ "□□□□ □□□ □□□□□□ □□□ □□□ □□□ □□ □□ □□□□ □□□□□ □□□□"

(Qitsri Iyerusalem ferisu! belu. Degetat bihawi teqatsilom. Ab'u zele'u hizbi ab abi tsegem'n hifret'n ale'u.)

Scene 4

[PICTURE: Nehemiah sitting alone, weeping with his head in his hands. Tears stream down his face. A window shows the night sky. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

When Nehemiah heard this terrible news, he sat down and cried. His heart was broken for his people and for the holy city of God.

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(Nihimya nezi himaqi zena mis sem'e kof ilu bekeye. Libu bisenki hizbu'n qidisti ketema Amlak'n tesebere.)

Scene 5

[PICTURE: Nehemiah kneeling in prayer with hands raised to heaven. Soft light shines down on him. He is fasting - no food is visible. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

For many days, Nehemiah prayed and fasted. He asked God to help him and to show him what to do. He trusted that God would hear his prayer.

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(Nibuzuh me'altat Nihimya tseleye'n tsome'n. Amlak kihigzo'n intay kigeber kem zele'o kihibro'n lemene. Amlak tselotu kem zisem'i amene.)

Scene 6

[PICTURE: Nehemiah serving wine to the king, but his face is sad. The king sits on a magnificent throne, looking at Nehemiah with concern. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

One day, as Nehemiah served wine to King Artaxerxes, the king noticed something different. "Why does your face look so sad?" the king asked. "You are not sick, so this must be sadness of the heart."

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(Hade me'alti Nihimya ninigus Artahshasta weyni keqrib kelo nigus filiy zibele neger astebehhale. Slemintay getska guhuy koynu? hatete nigus. Himum aykonkan, izi nay libi hazen kikewn ale'o.)

Scene 7

[PICTURE: Nehemiah bowing before the king, looking nervous but brave. He speaks with his hands clasped together respectfully. The grand court surrounds them. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Nehemiah was very afraid, but he was also very brave. He quickly prayed in his heart, then said: "The city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins. Its walls are broken and its gates are burned."

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Scene 8

[PICTURE: The king leaning forward with interest, asking Nehemiah what he wants. The queen sits beside the king. Nehemiah looks hopeful. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

"What do you want me to do?" the king asked kindly. Nehemiah's heart leaped with hope! He asked the king for permission to go to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls.

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(Intay kigeberelka tideli? bilewhat hatete nigus. Libi Nihimya bitsesfa zelele! Ninigus nab Iyerusalem keydu niqitsri kiserhh fiqad hatete.)

Scene 9

[PICTURE: The king handing Nehemiah official letters and scrolls with royal seals. Soldiers and supplies are being prepared in the background. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

God answered Nehemiah's prayer! The king said yes! He gave Nehemiah letters for safe travel, timber for building, and soldiers to protect him on the long journey.

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(Amlak tselot Nihimya melese! Nigus iwe bele! NiNihimya niwihus gu'izo debdabetat, nihintzet incheyit'n ab newih gu'izo zikhilwu'o wetehaderatn habo.)

Scene 10

[PICTURE: Nehemiah traveling on horseback with a small group of companions through desert landscape. They carry supplies and look determined. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Nehemiah traveled the long, dusty road from Persia to Jerusalem. It took many days, but his heart was full of hope because God was with him.

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Scene 11

[PICTURE: Nehemiah riding a donkey at night under the moon, quietly inspecting the broken, crumbling walls of Jerusalem. Rubble and stones are scattered everywhere. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, he waited three days. Then, at night, he secretly rode out to inspect the broken walls. He saw how badly damaged they were.

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(Nihimya ab Iyerusalem mis bets'he seleste me'alti tetsbeye. Dihri'u bileyti bimistir wetsi'u neti ziferese qitsri mermere. Kisa'i kindey kem zitebelashewe re'aye.)

Scene 12

[PICTURE: Nehemiah standing before a crowd of Jewish people in Jerusalem, arms raised, speaking passionately. The broken walls are visible behind them. People look up with hope. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Nehemiah gathered all the people together. "Come!" he said boldly. "Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem! God's hand is upon us, and the king has given us permission!"

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(Nihimya nikulom hizbi akibu. Ni'u! bit'bi'at bele. Niqitsri Iyerusalem nisrhayo! Id Amlak ab li'ilena ala, nigus'wun fiqad hibuna!)

Scene 13

[PICTURE: People cheering and raising their hands in agreement. Families - men, women, and children - all looking excited and determined to help rebuild. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

The people shouted with joy! "Let us start rebuilding!" they said together. Everyone wanted to help - men, women, young and old. They were ready to work as a team!

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(Hizbi bihhagos chederu! Misrahh nijemr! bihhabar belu. Kulu seb kihigz deleye - seb'utn anist'n, men'iseya'tn aregawiyan'n. Biganta kiserhhu diluwat neberu!)

Scene 14

[PICTURE: Different groups of people working on different sections of the wall. Some carry stones, others mix mortar, children bring water. A busy, joyful construction scene. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Nehemiah organized the people wisely. Each family was given a section of the wall to rebuild. Everyone worked on the part closest to their own home. Together they were strong!

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(Nihimya nihizbi bitwibeb awedebom. Nefsiwekkef sidra kiserhh'o hade kifal qitsri tewahbom. Kulu seb ab tiqqa betu zelo kifal serhhe. Bihhabar hayalat neberu!)

Scene 15

[PICTURE: Two angry men - Sanballat and Tobiah - standing on a hill, pointing and laughing at the workers below. They have mean expressions and mocking gestures. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

But not everyone was happy. Enemies named Sanballat and Tobiah were very angry! They mocked the builders. "What are these feeble people doing?" they laughed. "Even a fox could knock down their wall!"

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(Gin kulu seb higus ayneberen. Senbelatn Tobiya'n zismom tselae'iti azyom teqoti'om! Netom serehti alagetsulom. Izom dikhuma't sebat intay yigebru ale'u? sehaqu. Wekharya'wun niqitsrom kefrso yikhil!)

Scene 16

[PICTURE: Nehemiah standing firm with a calm, determined expression, encouraging worried workers. He points upward toward heaven while addressing the crowd. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

But Nehemiah was not afraid of their mean words. He told the people: "Do not be afraid of them! Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome. He will fight for us!"

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(Gin Nihimya kab himaqi qalatom ayferhhan. Nihizbi ke'a, Aytifrhu'om! Neti abin zefirhh'n Goyta zekru. Nisu ni'ana kiwaga'alna iyu! belom.)

Scene 17

[PICTURE: Workers building the wall with a trowel in one hand and a sword or spear in the other hand. They look vigilant but keep working. Some stand guard while others lay stones. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

The enemies threatened to attack! So Nehemiah made a wise plan. Half the workers built the wall while the other half stood guard with spears and shields. Those building held a tool in one hand and a weapon in the other!

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(Tselae'iti kem ziwenru aferarhu! Slezi Nihimya twibebenya medeb hantsetse. Firqi serahtenya'tat qitsri kiserhhu kele'u firqi dima bikunat'n walat'n hale'u. Itom ziserhhu bihade id mesarhi bikhali'e id dima atswar hizom!)

Scene 18

[PICTURE: Workers praying together before starting their day's work on the wall. The sunrise paints the sky orange and gold behind the partially rebuilt wall. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Every day, the workers prayed before they started building. They asked God for strength and protection. Prayer gave them courage to keep going even when the work was hard.

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(Kulu me'alti serahtenyatat qidmi srahh mimjarom yitsliyu neberu. Ni'Amlak hayl'n halewa'n lemenwo. Tselot srahh kebid mis zikhewn'wun nikiqitslu tib'at habom.)

Scene 19

[PICTURE: Enemies whispering secretly, plotting against the builders. They look sneaky and angry, pointing toward the wall in the distance. Dark shadows surround them. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

The enemies tried many tricks to stop the work. They sent scary messages. They planned secret attacks. They even tried to trick Nehemiah into hiding. But nothing worked!

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(Tselae'iti nisrahh nimiqwam buzuh tenkolat fetenu. Zefrihu mel'ikhti le'akhu. Siwur metqa'iti hantsetsu. NiNihimya kikhba'e'wun ketalliwo fetenu. Gin hanti'wun ayserhhatni!)

Scene 20

[PICTURE: Nehemiah standing tall and firm, shaking his head "no" to messengers who try to lure him away from the wall. He holds building tools firmly. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

When the enemies asked Nehemiah to come meet them, he knew it was a trap! He sent back a message: "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it?"

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(Tselae'iti niNihimya kirekbwo mis hatetu wetri mkunnu felete! Mel'ikhti milisu le'akhe, Abi srahh aleni kiwerd aykhiln. Slemintay gedifuyo srahh dew kibil?)

Scene 21

[PICTURE: The wall getting higher and higher. Workers passing stones up to those on top. The wall is now almost at full height, with only small gaps remaining. Everyone smiles with hope. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Day after day, the wall grew higher and higher! The gaps became smaller. The people worked from sunrise to sunset. They never gave up because they knew God was helping them.

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(Me'alti bime'alti qitsri inanewihe kede! Gag inatsebebe kede. Hizbi kab tsihay biraq kisa'i tsehay irrareb yiserhhu neberu. Amlak yihigzom kem zelo sle zifeletu fetasimom ayyhadegon.)

Scene 22

[PICTURE: Workers placing the very last stones on top of the completed wall. Some are sealing the gates with new wooden doors. Joy and exhaustion show on their faces. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

After just 52 days, the wall was finished! Every stone was in place. Every gate had new doors. What seemed impossible had been done! It was a miracle from God!

ብዝሪ 52 መዓልቲ ጥራይ ምስሪ ተወዲኣ! ኩሉ ምኒ ኣብ ቦጡ ኣቲዊ። ኩሉ ዳጌ ሓዲሽ መዓቶ ሰሪሑ ዝነበረ! ዘይኪኣል ዝምሲል ነገር ተፈጺሙ! ክብ ኣምላክ ተኣምር ነበረ!

(Dihri 52 me'altat tiray qitsri tewed'a! Kulu imni ab botu atewe. Kulu dege hadish ma'itso rekebe. Zeyke'al zimesil neger tefetseme! Kab Amlak te'amr nebere!)

Scene 23

[PICTURE: The enemies looking shocked and afraid, staring at the magnificent completed wall from a distance. Their mouths are open in disbelief. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

When the enemies saw the finished wall, they were shocked and afraid! They knew that only God could have helped the people finish so quickly. God had made His people victorious!

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(Tselae'iti neti zitewed'a qitsri mis re'ayu tegerimom'n ferihom'n! Amlak tiray netom hizbi biqiltuf kiwid'u kem zihagazom feletu. Amlak nihizbu iwutat geberom!)

Scene 24

[PICTURE: A grand celebration inside Jerusalem. People singing, dancing, playing instruments, and praising God. Children wave palm branches. The beautiful new wall stands strong behind them. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

The people of Jerusalem celebrated with great joy! They sang songs, played music, and praised God with all their hearts. Children danced and everyone thanked God for His faithfulness.

ዝብ ኢየሩሳሌም ብዓቢ ሓጎስ ዓለሉ! መዝሙር ዘመሩ ሙዚቃ ፀዋቱ ብምሉእ ልቦም ንዐምላክ ኣምስጊኖ ዝብ ኢየሩሳሌም ኣዕሊሎ ኩሉ ሰብ ብዕምነቶ ንዐምላክ ኣምስጊኖ

(Hizbi Iyerusalem bi'abi hagos ab'alu! Mezmur zemeru, muzika tsawetu, bimlu'e libom ni'Amlak amesgenu. Qol'u sa'isu kulu seb dima bi'imnetu ni'Amlak amesgenu.)

Scene 25

[PICTURE: Nehemiah standing on top of the beautiful completed wall with arms raised to heaven in gratitude. Below, the city of Jerusalem looks safe and protected. The sun sets beautifully behind him. East African/Eritrean features. Warm watercolor children's Bible illustration.]

Nehemiah stood on the strong, beautiful wall and thanked God. Because he prayed, worked hard, and never gave up, God's city was safe again. God always helps those who trust Him and work together!

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(Nihimya ab li'ili iti tsinu'in tsibuq'n qitsri dew ilu ni'Amlak amesgene. Sle zitseleye, bitsa'iri sle ziserhhe, fetsimu sle zeyhadege, ketema Amlak dagmay wihisti konet. Amlak kulu gize nizamnwo'n bihhabar niziserhhu'n yihigz!)

Moral of the Story / □□□□□ □□□

When God gives us a job to do, we should never give up, even when others try to stop us. Teamwork and prayer can accomplish the impossible!

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(Amlak kingebro srahh mis zihbena, kal'ot ki'agtuna mis zifetnu'wun fetsimsna kinhhadgo yeblnan. Biganta misrahh'n tselot'n zeyke'al zimesil neger ketegbir yikhil!)

Bible Verse / □□□ □□□□ □□□

"So we rebuilt the wall… for the people had a mind to work."

— Nehemiah 4:6

"□□□□ □□ □□□□□… □□□ □□□□□ □□□ □□ □□□□□"

— □□□□ 4:6

(Niqitsri dima serihhnayo… hizbi nimisrahh libom sle zinebere.)

Discussion Questions / □□□□ □□□□

1. Why was Nehemiah so sad when he heard about Jerusalem's walls?
2. What did Nehemiah do before he asked the king for help?
3. How did the enemies try to stop the building?
4. Why did the workers hold tools in one hand and weapons in the other?
5. What can we learn from Nehemiah about never giving up?

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Prayer / □□□

Dear God, thank You for the story of Nehemiah. Help us to be brave like him and never give up when things are hard. Teach us to pray first and trust You for help. Thank You that when we work together, we can do great things for You. Help us to always finish what You give us to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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(Zikheberkha Amlak, bizanta Nihimya nemesgnnekha. Kemu jigna kinikhewn'n negerrat kebid mis zikhewn fetsimsna zeykinihadg'n hagzena. Qidm kinitsli nihhagez dima abakha kinwukel miharena. Bihhabar mis iniserhh abi neger kingebr kem inikhil nemesginneka. Zihhabkana srahh kulu gize kinwud'e hagzena. Bism Yesus, Amen.)

Thank You for Reading!

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Book 30 of 40

Little Believers Tigrinya Bible Stories

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