

Old Testament

Mission Arlington ◦ Mission Metroplex Curriculum ◦ 2011

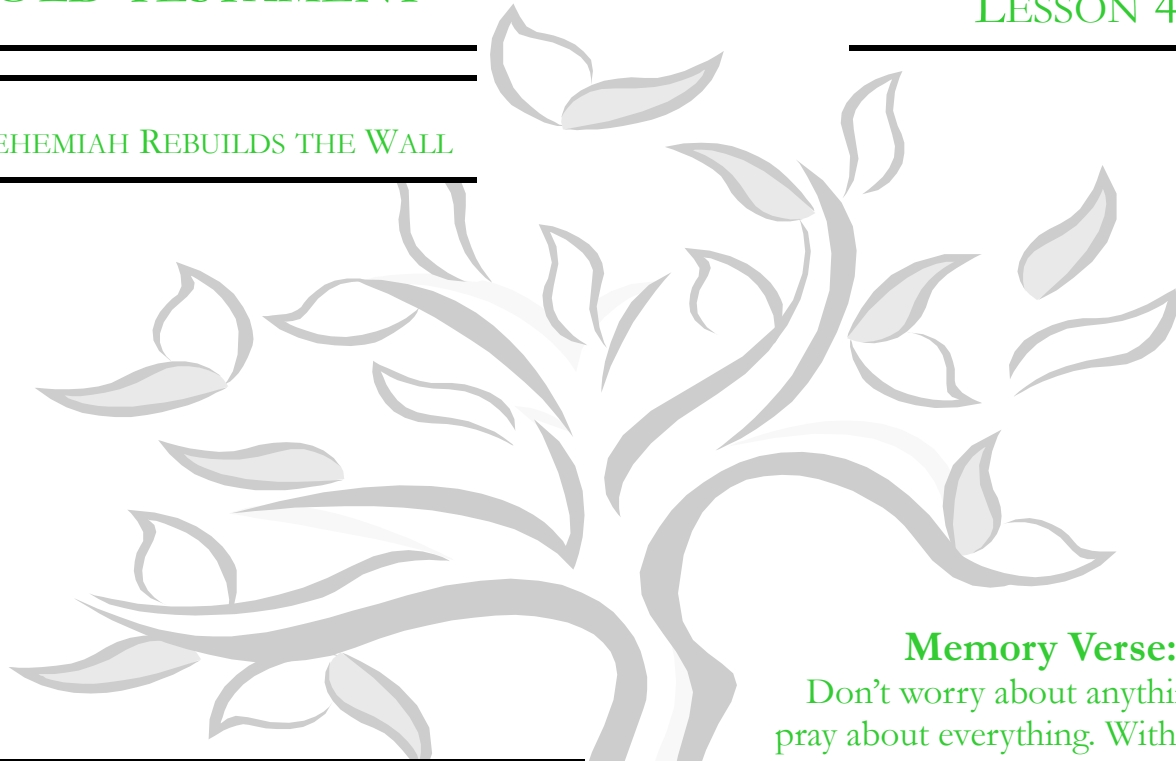
One Year Plan



GOD'S WORD

Created for use with young, unchurched learners Adaptable for all ages.

NEHEMIAH REBUILDS THE WALL



NEHEMIAH 1-13

Memory Verse:

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

Lesson Goals

1. Learn that Nehemiah prayed when he learned that Jerusalem's wall was torn down.
2. Understand that God sent Nehemiah to Jerusalem to rebuild the wall.
3. See that God was with Nehemiah and gave him wisdom and strength.
4. Recognize that Nehemiah led the Israelites to follow God and obey His laws.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to deliver us from sin.
3. Ask God to help you follow Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to be delivered from sin.

GOD'S WORD

Read Nehemiah 1:1-11. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Do You Know Jesus?

God loves you so much! He has a good plan for your life. He sent Jesus to die for you so that you can have a right relationship with Him. Jesus rose from the dead to show that He has power over sin and death. We do not have to be afraid, because God is with us. He will help us with our problems like He helped Nehemiah. You can accept Christ and receive eternal life today!

Application

Nehemiah knew where to turn for help. He prayed before he did anything else. When he faced opposition, he did not let it stop him from doing the work God called him to do. He knew that God was with him. We can pray to God about any and every situation in our lives. He wants to help us. He will give us direction and wisdom to deal with problems and challenges.

Begin With Prayer

Many of the kings of Israel had turned away from God and led the people to worship false gods. God was not pleased with this. Because of their sin, the people were taken captive by a foreign king. Many of them were forced to leave their homes and go to another place. One of these people was Nehemiah.

Nehemiah had an important job with the king of the foreign land. He was the king's cup-bearer. One day Nehemiah's brother told him some sad news. He discovered that the walls of his hometown (Jerusalem) were broken and had not been repaired. This troubled Nehemiah. He cried and prayed for several days. He asked God to forgive the people of their sins. He asked God to give him favor with the king.

God heard Nehemiah's prayers. One day, as Nehemiah served the king his drink, the king noticed that Nehemiah was sad. He asked him what was wrong. Nehemiah quickly prayed and then told the king that he was sad because Jerusalem was in ruins and the wall around the city had been burned down. Then he boldly asked the king if he could go rebuild the city wall. After some talk, they agreed. God answered Nehemiah's prayer and provided all that he needed.

Nehemiah set out quickly. But he was very careful about the things he did. In fact, when he got to Jerusalem, he kept his plans a secret. First, he went at night to look at the broken down wall. He rode a donkey around the city and inspected it. Then, when he was ready, Nehemiah told the people about his plan. He shared how God had answered his prayers and how the king had let him come to help. Everyone was excited. They wanted to start rebuilding the wall right away.

However, some people didn't like this plan. They asked lots of questions. What was Nehemiah's answer? "We are God's servants. We will start rebuilding." He knew that GOD was helping them rebuild the wall. He wasn't going to let anyone discourage them or stop the building.

Later, when the wall was half finished, the enemies started getting nervous. They began to tell the people that they would kill them when they weren't looking. Nehemiah told half the men to work and the other half to stand with spears, shields, bows, and armor. If they carried material in one hand, then they held a weapon in the other. If they were building, they carried a sword.

Nehemiah told each person to rebuild the wall next to their home in the city. That was a good idea because everyone wanted to do their best job on the part that was by their home. They would work hard to make it safe and secure from their enemies.

Guess what? A record was set! They finished the wall in 52 days!!! Do you know that even their enemies realized that only God could have done this because it was a great big wall? When the wall was complete, Nehemiah and Ezra helped the people worship God. They took time to read the Bible and obey God. It was a very special time of celebration.

Review

- 1. Who was Nehemiah?** (The king's cup-bearer.)
- 2. What did Nehemiah do when he learned the walls needed repair?** (He prayed, then asked the king for permission to go rebuild the wall.)
- 3. What did Nehemiah do when the enemies tried to stop him?** (He had people stand around the city with weapons to guard it.)
- 4. How long did it take to rebuild the wall?** (52 days)

Planning for the next week:

Esther's Courage (Esther 1-10)

Memory Verse

Don't worry about anything, but
pray about everything. With
thankful hearts offer up your
prayers and requests to God.

Philippians 4:6

Preschool Lesson

Read Nehemiah 1:1-11. (Hold your Bible throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

Teacher: Bring some boxes for the kids to build walls with.

Many of the kings of Israel had turned away from God and led the people to worship false gods. This made God sad. Because of their sin, the people were taken captive by a foreign king. Many of them were forced to leave their homes and go to another place. One of these people was Nehemiah.

Nehemiah had an important job with the king of the foreign land. He was the king's cup-bearer. He would taste the king's drinks to make sure they were o.k. (*Bring a cup and act like you are drinking out of it.*) One day Nehemiah's brother told him some sad news. He discovered that the walls of his hometown (Jerusalem) were broken and had not been repaired. This troubled Nehemiah. He cried and prayed for several days. He had such a love for his beautiful city; he couldn't bear to think of it in ruins.

Nehemiah asked God to forgive the people of their sins. He asked God to give him favor with the king. God heard Nehemiah's prayer. One day, as Nehemiah served the king his drink, the king noticed that Nehemiah was sad. He asked him what was wrong. Nehemiah quickly prayed and then told the king that he was sad because Jerusalem was in ruins and the wall around the city had been burned down. Then he boldly asked the king if he could go rebuild the city wall. After some talk, they agreed. God answered Nehemiah's prayer and provided all that he needed.

Nehemiah set out quickly. But he was very careful about the things he did. In fact, when he got to Jerusalem, he kept his plans a secret. (*Whisper when you say this.*) First, he went at night to look at the broken down wall. He rode a donkey around the city and inspected it. (*Pretend like you are riding a donkey and looking around.*)

Then, after he had a plan, Nehemiah talked to the people. He shared how God had answered his prayers and how the king let him come to help. Everyone was excited. They wanted to start rebuilding the wall right away. (*Make motions to simulate working and building with bricks.*)


Nehemiah told each person to rebuild the wall next to their home in the city. That was a good idea because everyone wanted to do their best job on the part that was by their home. They would work hard to make it safe and secure from their enemies.

Guess what? A record was set! They finished the wall in 52 days!!! Do you know that even their enemies realized that only God could have done this because it was a great big wall? When the wall was complete, Nehemiah and Ezra helped the people worship God. They took time to read the Bible and obey God. It was a very special time of celebration.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us.
3. Ask God to help you do what He says.

Preschool Memory Verse



**Don't worry about
anything, but
pray about
everything.
Philippians 4:6**

Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Bring a coloring picture of praying hands. Have the children write the verse on the page.

•**Test your memory** — Israel's enemies threatened them several times. They tried to distract them. Have the children divide into two groups. Ask one group to pretend to build walls. Have the other group try to distract those building the walls. Then tell the story and have the children retell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Use wafer cookies to build a wall. Use gummy bears to put inside the wall.

Make a wall with graham crackers, icing, and marshmallows. Lay the graham cracker on a plate. Spread icing on the cracker and add marshmallows to create the wall.

•**Think about it** — God protected the Israelites from their enemies. Talk about how God protects us.

God helped the Israelites finish the wall in 52 days. That was a miracle. Talk about how God works miracles today.

•**Touch activity** — Make bows, spears, shields, and swords out of paper bags or use aluminum foil.

Glue craft sticks onto a piece of construction paper to make a wall. Draw the doors with a marker.

Run and play — It took 52 days to rebuild the walls. Bring blocks and let the kids build a wall.

The Israelites worked. Some had bows, spears, shields, and swords. Let the children pretend they are standing guard with bows, spears, shields, and swords.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to remember He is our helper and our protector.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take the coloring page with the memory verse to them. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Rooted and Grounded



Pray

Thank God that He wants us to talk to Him in prayer.
Praise God for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be right with Him.
Ask God to show you people you can tell about Him.

Read the Bible Daily

This week, read the book of Nehemiah. Also, try to read a chapter out of Psalms and Proverbs each day.

Think About It

Prayer was important to Nehemiah. He prayed before he acted. With God's instructions, he then went forward and succeeded with God's help. We would do well to follow Nehemiah's example.

Do It

Are you facing a difficult task? Have you asked for God's help? Spend some time seeking God as you pour out your heart to Him. He will guide you and give you strength for what lies ahead.

Tell About It

Share the Bible story with a friend. Encourage them to seek God. Pray together.

Change it

Do you get discouraged and want to give up when problems come? Do you forget to pray and draw close to God during these times? Instead, look up—to God. He is there. Talk to Him. James 4:8 says, "Draw close to God, and God will draw close to you."

Study it

Attend Bible study this week. Invite a friend to come along.

Word Art

Trace the letters.

Nehemiah

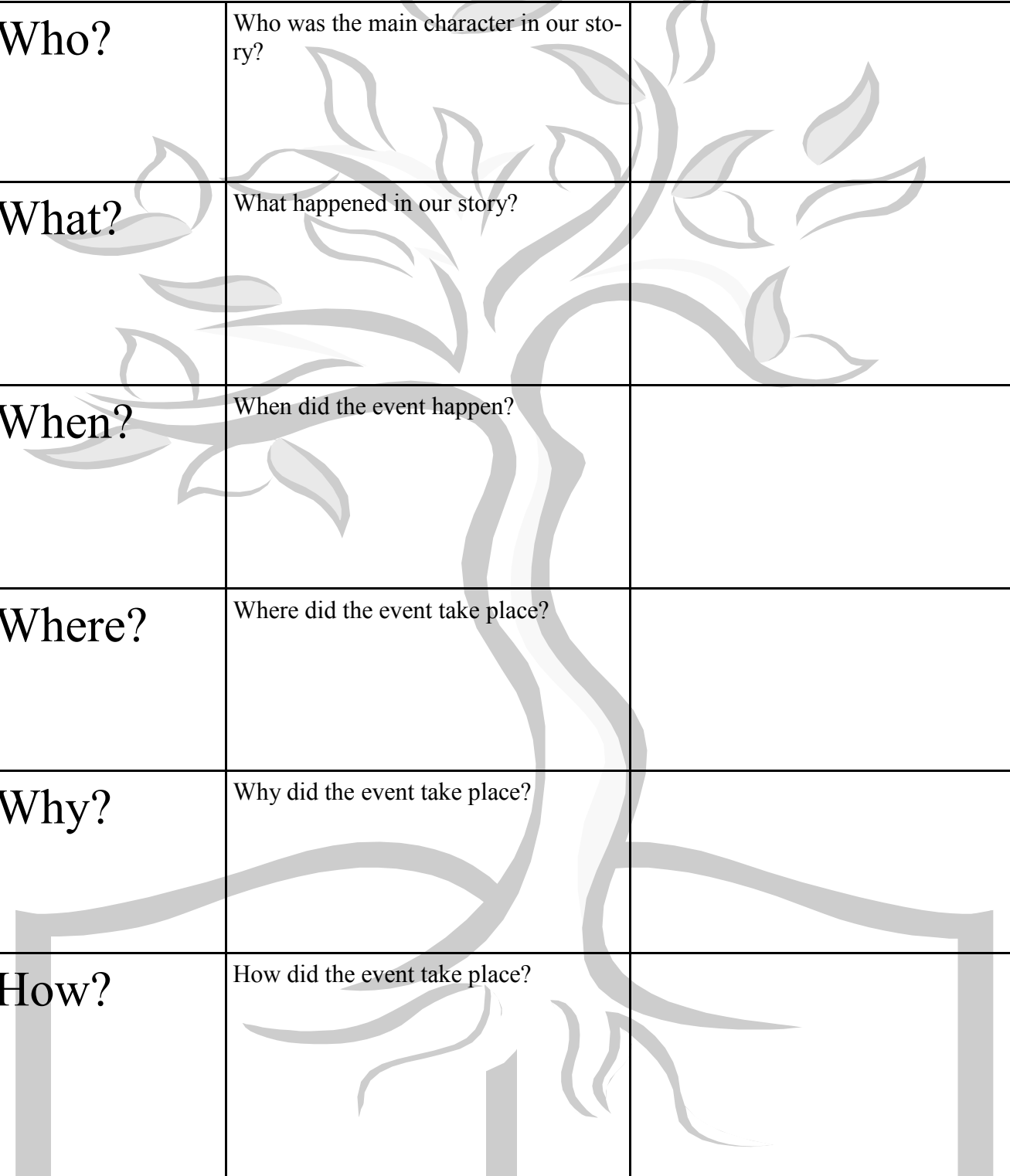
prayed.

God

helped.

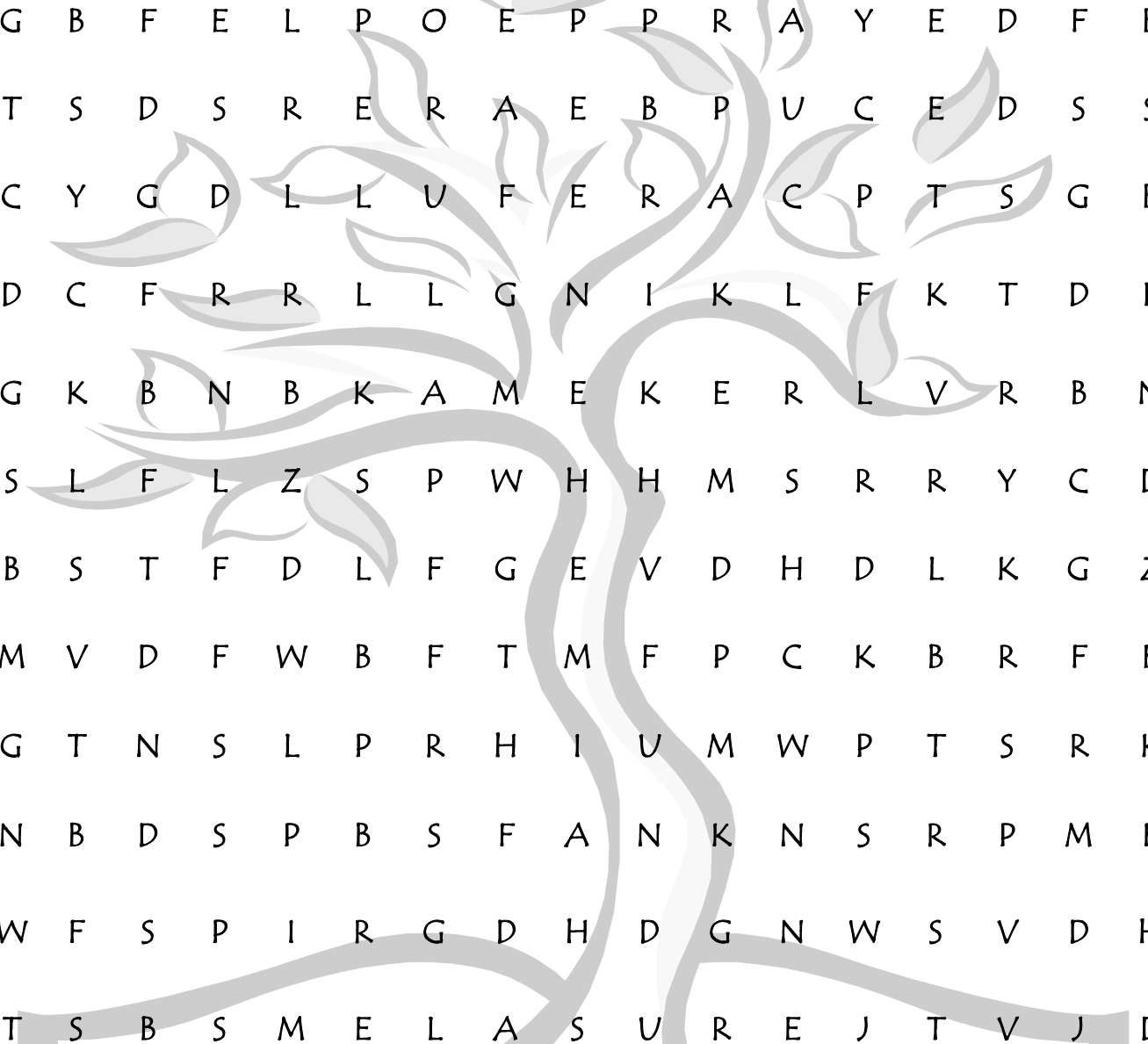
GOD'S WORD

Learning the Facts



Who?	Who was the main character in our story?	
What?	What happened in our story?	
When?	When did the event happen?	
Where?	Where did the event take place?	
Why?	Why did the event take place?	
How?	How did the event take place?	

Word Search



G B F E L P O E P P R A Y E D F B
T S D S R E R A E B P U C E D S S
C Y G D L L U F E R A C P T S G B
D C F R R L L G N I K L F K T D L
G K B N B K A M E K E R L V R B N
S L F L Z S P W H H M S R R Y C D
B S T F D L F G E V D H D L K G Z
M V D F W B F T M F P C K B R F E
G T N S L P R H I U M W P T S R K
N B D S P B S F A N K N S R P M F
W F S P I R G D H D G N W S V D H
T S B S M E L A S U R E J T V J D

NEHEMIAH

HELPED

CUPBEARER

PRAYED

WALLS

JERUSALEM

KING

PEOPLE

CAREFUL

Word Search Solution

G	B	F	E	L	P	O	E	P	P	R	A	Y	E	D	F	B
T	S	D	S	R	E	R	A	E	B	P	U	C	E	D	S	S
C	Y	G	D	L	L	U	F	E	R	A	C	P	T	S	G	B
D	C	F	R	R	L	L	G	N	I	K	L	F	K	T	D	L
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G	T	N	S	L	P	R	H	I	U	M	W	P	T	S	R	K
N	B	D	S	P	B	S	F	A	N	K	N	S	R	P	M	F
W	F	S	P	I	R	G	D	H	D	G	N	W	S	V	D	H
T	S	B	S	M	E	L	A	S	U	R	E	J	T	V	J	D

NEHEMIAH

HELPED

CUPBEARER

PRAYED

WALLS

JERUSALEM

KING

PEOPLE

CAREFUL

Preschool Word Search

K F B G L R W H D F L J
N E H E M I A H K B P M
B F V M T G S B P R D N
J M K V R L P R A Y E D
T P J W B D F I N I S H
J C B R K I N G Y K D M
S B R M K J D R K B N P
H E L P E D T F D V K S
R S H V T R V G S F R B
N B S R G F L W A L L S
S G F M J R T F B G L D
M B N P E O P L E K V D

NEHEMIAH

PRAYED

KING

HELPED

WALLS

PEOPLE

Preschool Word Search Solution

K	F	B	G	L	R	W	H	D	F	L	J
N	E	H	E	M	I	A	H	K	B	P	M
B	F	V	M	T	G	S	B	P	R	D	N
J	M	K	V	R	L	P	R	A	Y	E	D
T	P	J	W	B	D	F	I	N	I	S	H
J	C	B	R	K	I	N	G	Y	K	D	M
S	B	R	M	K	J	D	R	K	B	N	P
H	E	L	P	E	D	T	F	D	V	K	S
R	S	H	V	T	R	V	G	S	F	R	B
N	B	S	R	G	F	L	W	A	L	L	S
S	G	F	M	J	R	T	F	B	G	L	D
M	B	N	P	E	O	P	L	E	K	V	D

NEHEMIAH

PRAYED

KING

HELPED

WALLS

PEOPLE

Anagram

RRYOW

NNHGAYIT

YRPA

RNGHEEYIVT

HINEMEHA

KEADS

RAJESMUEL

SWLAL

IBRTVEL

GOD'S WORD

Anagram Solution

WORRY

ANYTHING

PRAY

EVERYTHING

NEHEMIAH

ASKED

JERUSALEM

WALLS

REBUILT

GOD'S WORD