



Small Group Study Guide  
Rebuilding the Walls:  
Nehemiah

“God will fight for us!”  
-Nehemiah

Week 1 Group Reflection Questions

1. What do you know about Nehemiah?
2. Do you remember a time in your life when you received news that caused you to mourn, fast, and pray?
3. What are the basic elements of Nehemiah’s prayer? What can we learn from his prayer?
4. Where’s your hope meter today?
5. What does this passage tell us about life together in the church?

**January 6, 2008**  
**What’s God Up To?**  
**Nehemiah 1:1-11**

The God we worship is a God of hope. However, sometimes that hope seems to hide. By the time we catch up to the story of the Israelites they have lived in exile for roughly five generations. What do you know about your family from five generations ago? I know that I know nothing. The hope of the promised land must have seemed like a distant memory. Even though the people might have forgotten, God does not forget his promises.

God uses a king, not a Jewish king, to save His people. The Persian king, Cyrus, gave the imperial order to return the Israelites to their homeland. Against all odds hope returned. Then the story turns in a way we don’t expect even though they’re “home”: they have no security because of the broken wall. These walls remain broken for more than a decade. Do you hear the surprise in Nehemiah’s voice? “You mean the wall still has not been rebuilt!?”

Throughout Nehemiah we read of a God who never gives up, a God of hope. How’s your hope? Are you wondering where God is? Let Nehemiah sink into your soul. He will show us that with our God no situation is hopeless.

