



GROUP & FAMILY MATERIALS

WEEK 2

DO NOT GIVE UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS
SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT
ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER...

HEBREWS 10:25 (NIV)

WEEK 2 COURAGE

INTRODUCTION

The opposite of courage is not cowardice but rather conformity. It is taking the easy way out by maintaining the status quo. Courage is about doing the right thing, not the convenient thing.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 2:1-9 (NIV)

ARTAXERXES SENDS NEHEMIAH TO JERUSALEM

¹In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before,² so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart."

I was very much afraid,³ but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"

⁴The king said to me, "What is it you want?"

Then I prayed to the God of heaven,⁵ and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."

⁶Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

⁷I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah?⁸ And may I have a letter to Asaph,

keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.⁹ So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 2:1-9

What did King Artaxerxes notice about Nehemiah that was different? (Nehemiah 2:1-2)

What was Nehemiah's courageous explanation to King Artaxerxes regarding why his face looked so sad? (Nehemiah 2:3)

What were the three requests that Nehemiah made of King Artaxerxes? (Nehemiah 2:5-8)

How did King Artaxerxes respond to Nehemiah's "big ask"? (Nehemiah 2:6)

 WATCH JEFF'S WEEK 2 VIDEO:
COURAGE

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time when you were afraid to make a request of someone. Did you find the courage to ask? How did they respond?

Why do you think Nehemiah was afraid to show his sadness to King Artaxerxes?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

What is a current courageous “ask” you need to make?

PRAYER

Let's courageously ask God to provide all the resources needed to meet our \$10 million goal for our Rise Up campaign through a generous, unified and legacy response from all of us at The Compass Church.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Have your child draw a picture of your home while blindfolded. Another option would be to have them draw this on a paper plate that is placed on their head.



Nehemiah 2:1-6



Nehemiah had gotten news that the wall of Jerusalem was broken-down. Just like the picture that was drawn blindfolded, it did not look like it should. Can you imagine if our home actually looked like this picture? Have fun reviewing the picture drawn.



- Why was Nehemiah so sad?
- What did Nehemiah courageously ask the king for?
- When was the last time you were sad?
- When was the last time you did something courageous?
- Do you know that our church is asking people do something big? We are raising lots of money to build a new church building for our South Naperville Campus and to help people in local cities, our country, and around the world.



Let's pray that God would give people courage to give what is needed so people Here, Near & Far are blessed by our church.