

Called to Service

SCRIPTURE - Nehemiah 3:1-32

MATERIALS needed for Activity 1:

A variety of shapes cut out of paper that fit together (think paper Tetris) and painters tape.

MATERIALS needed for Activity 1 (alternative):

A large floor puzzle.

MATERIALS needed for Scripture:

9 notecards with the names of the gates listed (Sheep Gate, Fish Gate, Old (Jeshanah) Gate, Valley Gate, Dung Gate, Fountain Gate, Water Gate, Horse Gate, Inspection Gate) and a map of the city wall.

MATERIALS needed for Crafts:

Wall printables, scrap paper, scissors, and glue.

ACTIVITY 1:

Gather the children together. Explain that you have a pile of shapes that fit together and the only way to figure it out is to work together. Give the children the stack of shapes so they can begin figuring out how they fit together. Use the painters tape to tape them to the wall as they fit them together.

ASK: Did you think it was easy or hard to put together the "puzzle"?

ASK: Did you think it was easier when you had someone to work along side you?

SAY: Sometimes working together as a team can make hard work easier. Often times when God calls us to work (serve) Him it is best that we work as a team. Think about VBS, could one person make VBS happen? Or think about mission trips where people build churches, could one person build the whole church by himself? God calls all Christians to service so we should serve together.

*Alternative - Have children put together the floor puzzle as a team.

SCRIPTURE - Nehemiah 3:1-32

Before getting started with reading the verses, distribute the wall map and "gate notecards" to the children. Instruct them to listen for the different gates as you read follow along on their map and turn in their gate card when they heard it read.

Review what you have discussed the passed two weeks concerning Nehemiah and his journey to rebuild the wall and gates.

READ Nehemiah 3:1-32

**There is no recap for these verses. The names of those mentioned are important and although we have a tendency to want to skip over passage of scriptures like these it is important that we study them in their entirety.*

Q: *Why do you think all those names were mentioned?*

A: *These people worked hard and had faith in God as they worked.*

Q: *Did Nehemiah take the credit of rebuilding the wall?*

A: *No, the credit went to God first then those who worked hard.*

Q: *Could just one person rebuild the wall?*

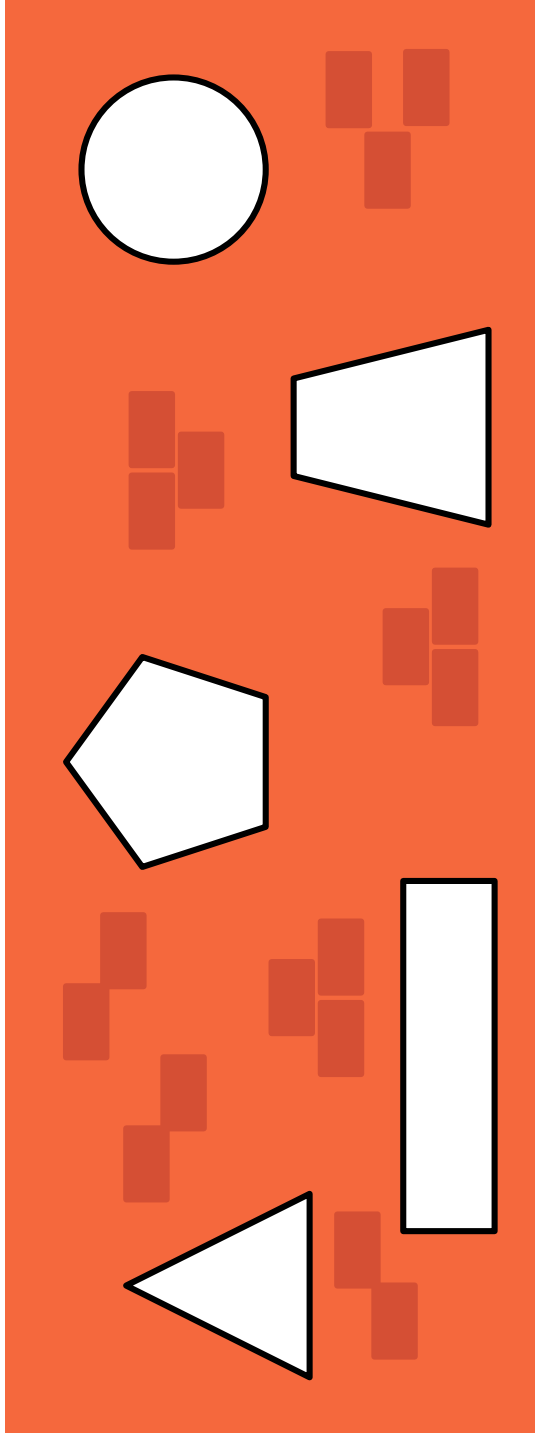
A: *Maybe but probably not. Serving God isn't intended to be one person's job but team work*

CLOSING:

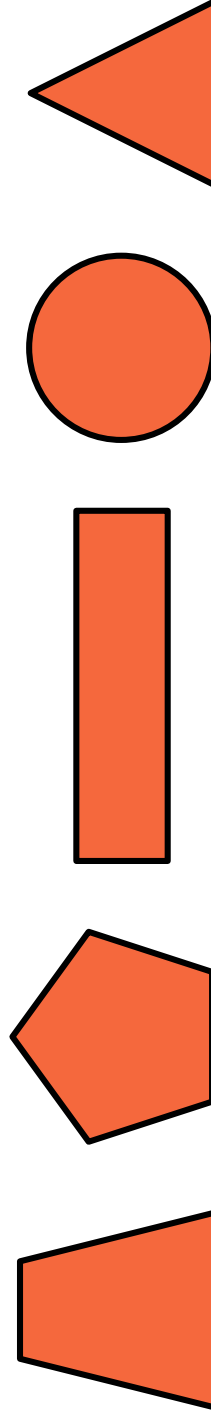
It is easy to want to do things our own way or by ourselves but the truth is God has called all of us (Christians) to service and if we truly want to serve God well we must do it together. We are the church.

PRAYER TIME

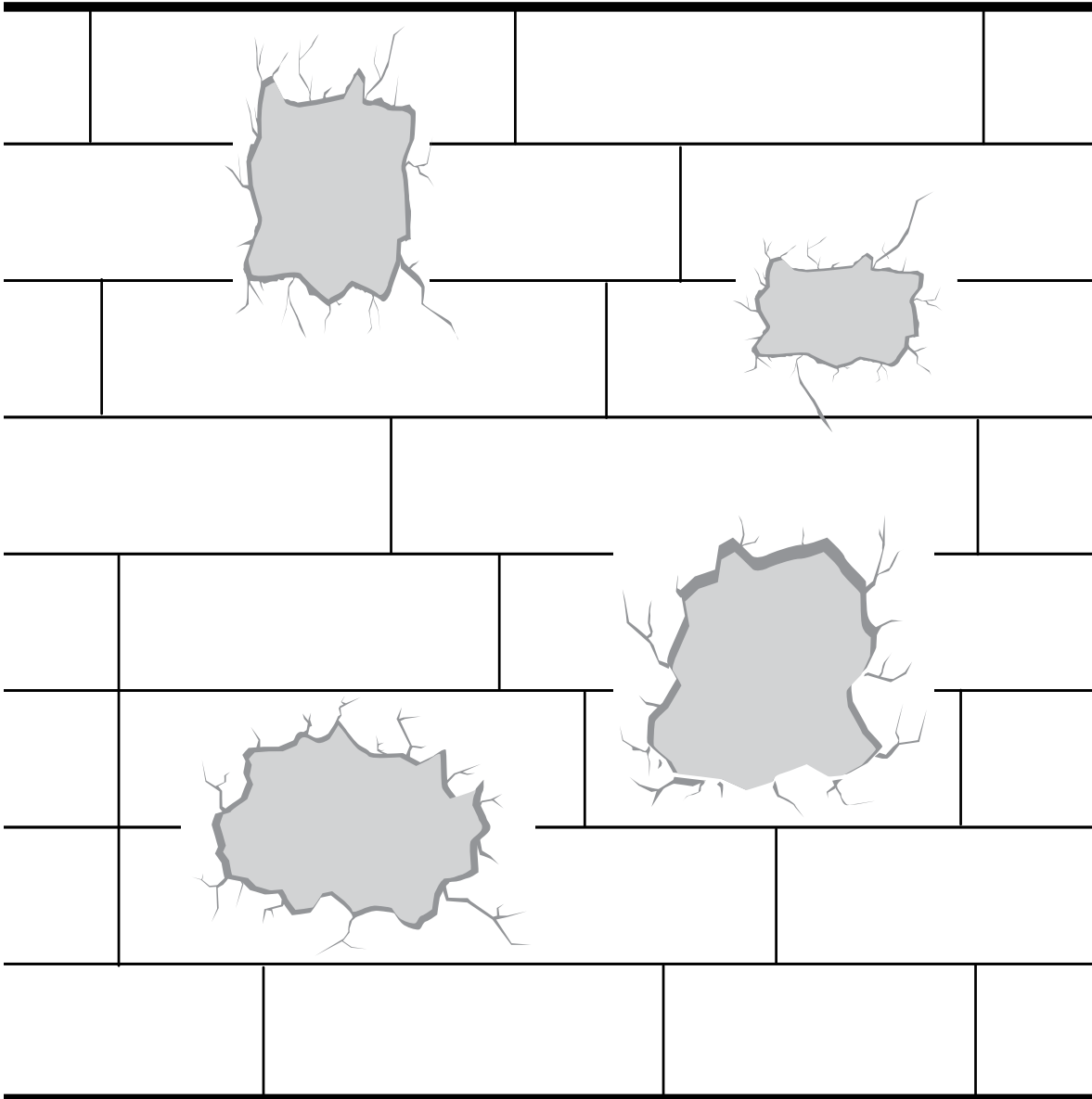
Take a few moments to thank God for his blessings. Pray for your family. Pray for our church. Pray for our country and its leaders. And pray for opportunities to serve alongside other Christians.



Cut out the shapes to repair the holes in the wall



Cut out bits of paper and glue to patch the holes in the wall



Walls and Their Builders

Nehemiah 3 tells us the names of many who help rebuild Jerusalem's wall

