



Benjas (0-5 years)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: CRACKS APPEAR
Reference: Nehemiah 13:4-31

Point: Church buildings, rules and going to church, do not cause people's hearts to change for ever and not sin; God does.



Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 1:20

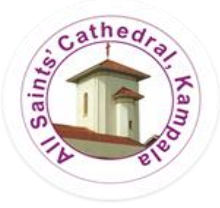
For no matter how many promises
God has made, they are 'Yes' in
Christ.



God's people had repented of their
sin and promised to obey God.

After some time, they broke their
promise and disobeyed.

Nehemiah was not happy with them!



Judges (6-7 years)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: CRACKS APPEAR
Reference: Nehemiah 13:4-21

Point:

Church buildings, rules and going to church, do not cause people's hearts to change for ever and not sin; God does.



Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 1:20

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ.



God's people had repented of their sin and promised to obey God.

However, when Nehemiah went to visit them, he found that they had broken their promise and disobeyed again.

Nehemiah was not happy with them!

All the things they had could not help them keep obeying God; only God could help them by changing their hearts.

Challenge: Ask God to change your heart and to help you stop a bad habit this week.



Judeans (8-9 years)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: CRACKS APPEAR

Reference: Nehemiah 13:4-31

Point: Buildings, laws and religion do not bring about lasting change in people's hearts.

Read the full story from Nehemiah 13:4-31



God's people had repented of their sin and promised to obey God. However, when Nehemiah

returned to visit them in Jerusalem, he found that they had broken their promise and disobeyed again.

They let a pagan use the temple store room, stopped taking offerings to the temple and neglected it, dishonoured the Sabbath and intermarried with people from pagan nations.

Nehemiah was very unhappy with them!



God's people had rebuilt the altar, the temple, the wall, read God's law, repented and promised to obey the Lord. However, buildings, laws, and religion did not bring lasting change in their

hearts. Soon, they started disobeying again – cracks in their faith appeared.

We are no different from those people. The natural attitude of our hearts is to turn away from God.

Lasting obedience only comes when our hearts are changed, and only God can change our hearts. Those people needed God to work by his Spirit to change them from the inside. We need God to do the same for us.

Think: *Do you struggle with a particular sin? Ask God to change your heart and replace sinful desires and patterns of behavior with godly ones.*

Draw lines to match the sins with what Nehemiah did about them.

Intermarriage (13:23-24)

Shut the city gates

Working and trading on the Sabbath (13:14-16)

Collected tithes

Not supporting temple ministry (13:10)

Emptied the room

Room for offerings filled with Tobiah's belongings (13:5)

Pulled out men's hair

Challenge: Ask God to change your heart and to help you stop a bad habit this week.

Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 1:20

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God. (NIV)

Bible Reading for the week: Nehemiah chapter 5 and 6



Bible Class (10yrs & above)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: CRACKS APPEAR

Reference: Nehemiah 13:4-31

Point: Buildings, laws and religion do not bring about lasting change in people's hearts.

Read the full story from Nehemiah 13:4-31



God's people had made a commitment to live by God's law; they had repented of their sin and promised to obey God. However, after a short

time, they started sinning in the same ways that they had done before. When Nehemiah went back to Jerusalem to visit them, he found that they had broken their promise and disobeyed God.

They let a pagan use the temple store room, stopped taking offerings to the temple and neglected it, dishonored the Sabbath and intermarried with people from pagan nations.

Nehemiah was very unhappy with them and tried to force them to do the right thing.



God's people had rebuilt the altar, the temple, the wall, read God's law, repented and promised to obey the Lord. However, buildings, laws, and religion did not bring lasting change in their hearts.

Soon, they started disobeying again – cracks in their faith appeared.

We are no different from those people. The natural attitude of our hearts is to turn away from God.

Lasting obedience only comes when our hearts are changed, and only God can change our hearts. Those people needed God to work by his Spirit to change them from the inside. We need God to do the same for us.

Think: *Do you struggle with a particular sin? Ask God to change your heart and replace sinful desires and patterns of behavior with godly ones.*

Draw lines to match the sins with what Nehemiah did about them.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Intermarriage (13:23-24) ● | ● Shut the city gates |
| Working and trading on the Sabbath (13:14-16) ● | ● Collected tithes |
| Not supporting temple ministry (13:10) ● | ● Emptied the room |
| Room for offerings filled with Tobiah's belongings (13:5) ● | ● Pulled out men's hair |

Which promise did not last very long? (10:28-29)

Challenge: Ask God to change your heart and to help you stop a bad habit this week.

Memory verse: 2 Corinthians 1:20

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God. (NIV)

Bible Reading for the week: Nehemiah chapter 5 and 6