



NEHEMIAH

6

COURAGE

Each session will begin with an opportunity to help you connect with and get to know one another.

What is an extreme sport—like skydiving or bungee jumping—that you want to try at least once?

Play the “Session Six: Courage” video lesson.

What stood out to you from the video?

“THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION—WHOM SHALL I FEAR? THE LORD IS THE STRONGHOLD OF MY LIFE—OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID?”

— DAVID OF BETHLEHEM

In the following section, you will explore Bible passages and take part in discussion to apply insights from this session. If time is a concern, please choose just a few questions to discuss in your group.

Read Nehemiah 6:1-14

1. Share about a fear you have, whether it's a fear of something small or something legitimately terrifying. Why does that thing make you fearful? What are you afraid would happen if you encountered it?

2. In this story, Nehemiah's three opponents tried to intimidate him to stop him from finishing the wall around Jerusalem. What was their plan? How does the world try to intimidate us from our work as Christians, sharing the good news of Jesus? Why do they do this?

3. Share a story from your life when you had to summon the courage to do something that scared you. What did you feel right before you took the risk? How did you feel afterward? What is a situation in your life that tends to bring out your bravery?

Read 2 Timothy 1:3-14 & 1 John 4:18

4. What happens when we surrender to a spirit of fear? If we keep our faith in God quiet, how might we weaken it? Why do you think some Christians hesitate to share the truth of the gospel? Why might it be difficult for them to say something that is unpopular?

5. In 1 John 4:18, we learn that perfect love drives our fears away. How does this happen? How does the love of God personally give you courage to face your fears? Why do we tend to become less fearful when we become more compassionate?

6. Tell about a time when you shared something you thought or believed, even if it was intimidating to do so. What was the result? How can sharing our faith courageously empower us to grow more like Christ? How can sharing the gospel with others strengthen your faith?

DEEPER STUDY QUESTIONS

Read Judges 7:1-25

7. Why does the Lord take steps to whittle down Gideon's army and use such a strange method to attack the Midianites? Why does the Lord consistently lead us into situations that require courage? How does God act on our behalf when we are afraid?

8. Imagine you are a Midianite soldier, awoken abruptly by trumpets and the sound of smashing jars. What would you have thought was happening? How would you have reacted to what you heard and saw? How can fear lead us to act irrationally? How can it cause us to hurt ourselves instead of help ourselves?

PRAYER AND PRAISE

This is a place where you can write each other's prayer requests and make notes when God answers prayer. Pray for each other's requests out loud together as a group. If you're new to group prayer, you may pray silently.

Prayer Requests

Praise Reports