

READY FOR LAUNCH

Elementary
Week 2

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY **Read Ezekiel 22:29-31**

In this passage God is talking to Ezekiel about the fall of Jerusalem. God points out that no one was willing to stand up against the injustice happening around them; how people were being oppressed and extorted, cheated by the very people God was calling to help them. Things fell apart. Israel was a mess because humans made a mess of it, and no one was willing to stand in the gap and act how God called them to act. To make things right and take care of each other.

Many years later, Nehemiah, torn up with grief for what had happened and how Jerusalem had been destroyed, chose to stand in the breach. Nehemiah who lived far from Jerusalem, and worked for a king, talked to God, and decided to go to help rebuild Jerusalem, and when he got there, there were still people being taken advantage of, and not being treated how God calls us to treat others. So, did he stop and think: “Nope, God just wants me to build this wall, I’m just going to mind my business”? No! He knew God’s heart for people and the justice they all deserved. So, when he saw people being oppressed, he took initiative to do something about it, because that is what God calls us to do. It is hard, overwhelming, and terrifying at times, but if God is for us then what do we have to fear? Like it says at the end of Nehemiah 4:20, “Our God will fight for us.” God will fight for us and with us when we are fighting for something near and true to his heart.

Is there injustice that you see happening around you? Do you feel convicted to do something about it? Talk to God about it ask him what you can do.

Is there one active step you can take this week towards taking care of people the way God would if he was here?