



LEADER'S PACK

Pre-recorded children's ministry
event information for leaders.



Introduction

Living Stones

Living Stones – building God’s church back up again is material that will give you the opportunity to host a gathering for children and families without the stress of having to plan all the content. The material includes some songs to sing along to, spoken content and ideas for activities that can be done together.

All you will need to do is invite your children and families, provide space in the church, gather the resources you need for the numbers attending and press play. Then you can sit back and enjoy with those who attend. The event will be based on the story of Nehemiah and will help the children to see how they can play a part in God’s plan of building his church.

You also are like living stones. Let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple—to be holy priests who offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

1 Peter 2:5

Approximate length of recorded content: 48 minutes

You will need to add in extra time for the activities that are introduced along the way. This will require an additional 30 minutes minimum.

For additional information and to download the video content, please go to www.presbyterianireland.org/livingstones



Part 1: The Needs

1. Song: God is for me

[God is for Me | Maker Fun Factory Music Video | Group Publishing - YouTube](#)

2. Welcome and story part 1

Teaching Nehemiah chapters 1 and 2

Start children and families thinking about the needs around them and what they can see.

3. Joe Wicks style exercise for 2 minutes

In each of the 3 sections of the event, there is a 2 minute slot for the kids to get up and burn off some energy with a Joe Wicks style workout by CJ. This will allow the children to be active in spurts and hopefully keep their attention through the other parts of the programme.

PROP NEEDED: TOILET ROLL FOR EACH CHILD.

Useable again afterwards!

4. Application

After a brief explanation, you will be asked to pause the video for at least 10 minutes to allow the children and adults to discuss together a couple of questions and for the children to fill in a little card saying that they want to be a part of rebuilding our church and community after Covid.

Questions to discuss:

- What do you see in your church, street, school, community that is different to it was before Covid-19?
- What do you think needs to be rebuilt?
- Who could you pray for in your community as they lead the rebuilding, e.g. leaders, teachers, parents, etc.?

Once the children have had 5-10 minutes to discuss this in small groups with a leader or older child facilitating, give them out copies of the commitment card which allows them to say who they are and that they want to make a difference in their local community.

The template for the cards is in this pack which just requires photocopying for the number of children you have at the event.



Part 2: The Work

1. Song: City on a hill

[Nick & Becky Drake - City On A Hill - Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

2. Story part 2

Teaching Nehemiah chapter 3

The children will see how the story develops and how the rebuilding of the walls started under Nehemiah's leadership.

3. Joe Wicks style exercise for 2 minutes

Another opportunity for the children and adults to move and use up some energy with their Joe Wicks style moves!

PROP NEEDED: TEDDY BEAR.

Encourage children to bring their own to the event!

4. Application

Mark mentioned four things can Nehemiah did which can be true for us too as we think about playing our part in the world around us:

- have a plan
- have a team
- know your skills
- We have God!
- What other things can you think of where you could make a difference to others around you? What might God be showing you where you can help in your community?

Pause the video for 10 minutes and do the relay game that Mark mentioned.

To remind us of this part of the story play a city-building game. Put the children into teams. Children in each team take turns to run to the other end of the room and collect a part of the city's wall, i.e. a small box. The first team who collects all their city parts and assembles them into a circular city wall is the winner!



Part 3: The Opposition

1. Song: Light of the World

[Light of the World | Cave Quest VBS Music Video | Group Publishing - YouTube](#)

2. Joe Wicks style exercise for 2 minutes

Last opportunity for the children to get moving with CJ.

PROP NEEDED: HANDFUL OF DUPLO/LEGO BRICKS OR SOMETHING SIMILAR.

3. Story part 3

Teaching Nehemiah chapter 4 onwards

Sometimes there are people who want to stop us doing God's work too, just like for Nehemiah.

Examples:

- maybe you're going to church on Sunday but one of your friends says to you, 'don't go to church – stay here and play with me instead – but God wants us to worship him and learn from him at Sunday worship.
- maybe someone in school or where you live laughs at you for believing in Jesus. What did Nehemiah do when that happened? He prayed...and because he prayed he knew that God is GREAT and AWESOME and that he would fight FOR them.

4. Application

Introduction of the verse from 1 Peter 2:5

You also are like living stones. Let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple—to be holy priests who offer spiritual sacrifices to God.

Give each child a Duplo block and access to a marker pen. Have each child write their name on one of the bricks (and they can draw a wee picture on it too if they want). When done, one at a time, come up to the front and place bricks on top of the others and build a wall (not a tower – a **wall**).

Pause the video for 10 minutes for the children to write their names on the Duplo and to build their wall. See address for sending wall to PCI at the end of this pack.

Part 4: Conclusion

1. Song: Never be shaken

[Never be shaken - YouTube](#)

Below is a checklist of actions and resources needed for the Living Stones event.

Equipment set up to play the video for the recorded content.

Gather the resources listed below that you need for the event.

Toilet rolls: one for each child attending. They will be usable afterwards!

Teddy bear: encourage the children to bring their own. Needed for one of the active sections.

Duplo pieces: a few for each child. (second hand Duplo pieces can be bought cheaply on eBay or other sites).

Questions for opening discussion.

Photocopies of the commitment cards, one for each child.

Small boxes: at least one for each child to be collected during relay game.

One large Duplo piece per child/adult attending.

Sharpie pens.

Please send your Duplo wall to a dd to all the other parts of the wall to:

Ruth Bromley

Council for Congregational Witness

PCI Assembly Buildings

2-10 Fisherwick Place

Belfast

BT1 6DW

