

# Sermon Guide

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## *sermon discussion* **questions**

### "The Work Begins"

- ▶ What is your first reaction when you are given a challenging task?
- ▶ Do you consider yourself a planner? What is your typical planning process?
- ▶ How do you normally respond to opposition?
- ▶ We all have an active role in God's mission on this planet. Is your specific role clear to you? Make that a matter of consistent prayer.

## ***dig deeper:***

"It has come to be a dreadfully common belief in the Christian Church that the only man who has a "call" is the man who devotes all his time to what is called "the ministry", whereas all Christian service is ministry, and every Christian has a call to some kind of ministry or another."

~Charles Spurgeon

Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-26

Discovering and exercising our God-given spiritual gifts allows us to experience maximum fulfillment in the Christian life and ministry. Click on the link below or type the URL into a browser in order to access your My Paramount page and take a Spiritual Gift Assessment.

<https://my.paramount.org/SpiritualGifts>

*preschool*

## *questions*

Have your preschooler gather some building blocks (legos) or boxes of tissue, or rolls of toilet paper. It's important that you allow them to get or help go get supplies.

- Have them build a pyramid and crash it down. (Just because it's fun!)
- Then have them build a wall and crash it down! (Just because it's fun!)

**How did you know how to build the pyramid/wall?**

**How did you prepare to build the pyramid/wall?** They had to gather the supplies.

Explain God is at work preparing us to do good works (Eph. 2:10) and we get to do those good works like loving our neighbors, helping those in need and sharing God's love with others.

Take a few minutes to pray with your preschooler, giving them the chance to pray out loud, too.

*elementary*

## *questions*

Have your elementary student gather some building blocks (legos) or boxes of tissue, or rolls of toilet paper. It's important that you allow them to get or help go get supplies.

- Have them build a pyramid and YOU crash it down or take a block away Jenga style.
- Then have them build a wall and YOU crash it down or take a block away Jenga style. (Caution NOT to exasperate your child, it all has a point!)

**What did you do to prepare to build?** Gather supplies.

Explain Nehemiah had to prepare to rebuild the wall.

**How did you feel when I crashed down the wall?**

Explain that when we obey God we encounter opposition, resistance and, in the case of Nehemiah, an attack.

Take a few minutes to pray with your elementary student, giving them the chance to pray out loud, too.

*student*

## *questions*

**What was the hardest test you have ever taken?**

**How did you prepare for that test?** If there is a shared story go ahead and reminisce about it.

**What are ways God may be preparing you?**

**Do you feel any opposition at school/in public for being a Christian?**

Explain that when we obey God we encounter opposition, resistance and, in the case of Nehemiah, an attack.

**How do you think God can use you for His mission?**

Take a few minutes to pray with your student, take a request or two; this is giving them the chance to pray out loud, too.



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