

## Small Group and Personal Bible Study

Pastor Dennis Hadley

### Memory Verse: Psalm 9:9

“The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.”

### Discovery Bible Study Lesson

1. Read and then write down the passage found in **Psalm 9:9**
2. Next, rewrite **Psalm 9:9** using your own words
3. What do you discover in this passage?
4. What does God want you to understand and obey in response to this passage?

### Daily Bible Reading

- Day 1: Nehemiah 4
- Day 2: Nehemiah 5
- Day 3: Nehemiah 6
- Day 4: Nehemiah 7
- Day 5: Nehemiah 8

### Lesson: Building for God

1. We should always expect opposition when we are doing God’s work. How have you experienced opposition in doing God’s work?

Let people share.

For me, when we first started to work at InnVision we faced direct opposition.

For example, the night we were asked to talk with the men at the “InnVision house meeting” to present our desire to offer the group we started for Bible Study and Prayer. Steve Belarmino and I stood before about 70 men and told them what we were going to do. Someone asked, “What are you teaching?” I answered, “We are teaching from the Bible.” Several men began to grumble and one said, “What if we don’t want to hear the bible, what if we don’t believe that?” I prayed even as they were beginning to object for God to take over and He did. A few others guys objected saying, “I think that is what we need here.” “Yeah, we need to have Bible study.” And God had His way.

But it wasn’t over; within the first couple weeks we began to see spiritual warfare. We had one guy come into our meeting and he completely went ballistic and got very belligerent and threatening during the meeting. We discovered that over and over again, guys would come in to disrupt what we were trying to do. Either by being a distraction or quite often trying to present themselves as the truth but what they would say was completely in opposition to the Word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. How did you deal with that opposition?

Let people share.

The way Steve and I handled this was first, we would arrive early and pray God’s covering and protection over the room, over the facility, over the people. We would pray that God would speak His truth through us and through those who would come into our meetings. We would pray that Satan would have no real impact in our Bible Study and be bound from interrupting God’s work.

We also developed a strategy for dealing with distractions. Like the armed watchmen on the wall, Steve and I covered one another. If I was teaching, Steve would pray and be ready to deal with distractions so that the Word of God would still go out. If Steve was teaching I would do the same. In doing so the other person could take away the distraction and deal with that person one on one or get help if ever needed.

Amazingly, when we prayed over the room and were prepared with “watchmen on the wall” God did His thing in miraculous ways and we discovered how God takes the opposition of the enemy and destroys the threat.

*We live in America, known worldwide as one nation under God. Yet for those of us who are followers of Jesus (the remnant of God in America) we see how, much like Jerusalem, our walls (God in our country) are being destroyed.*

3. Consider yourself a remnant of God in our community. What wall is God leading you to rebuild for Him?

Let people share how God may be leading them to make a difference in our community and our country. Certainly, God has used EVC and Kids Club to bring the Word of God and His presence and power back into the public schools. I feel that God wants to use this to regain the youth of America and let their influence change their families and friends. God wants the family to return to God. He is doing it through children and using the public schools as His resource. Who would have ever expected that in America?

*PRAYER: Take extra time this week to call out to God in prayer for our community and to use you and those around you to build His Kingdom.*