

## GOOD NEWS BAD NEWS

March 5, 2022

### Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

Nehemiah 1

### Memory Verse

<sup>33</sup> I have told you this, so that you might have peace in your hearts because of me. While you are in the world, you will have to suffer. But cheer up! I have defeated the world.

**John 16:33b**



# CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron VandenBurg  
illustrated by Chad Thompson



Have you ever been upset by something in the news? Maybe you heard about a terrible crime, or saw a picture of war, or watched a video about people who don't have clean water. Perhaps you heard about people who are being persecuted, punished, or put in prison for their faith. You may feel like there's no way you can help, but there is: you can pray for God's justice in the world.

There was a man in the Bible named Nehemiah who was upset by some news. When he heard that his people were in trouble, he got on his knees and prayed. He knew his people were not perfect and asked for God's mercy. He prayed for them to come back home to worship God.

Then, after he prayed, he went into action. He asked God to give him wisdom as a leader, and God had mercy on his people and helped them. Nehemiah relied on God to bring justice in his way, in his timing.

Jesus assures us, “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” (John 16:33b). He understood that it’s natural to feel discouraged when you hear bad news. But, he promised us that we can take courage, because God’s good news still overcomes all the bad news. God wants us to come to him like Nehemiah did, humbly asking for his mercy; praying for justice in a world that needs Jesus.

## Prayer

Dear God, please have mercy on your people. The world is a sinful place, but thank you that Jesus paid the price for our sins once and for all. Please help me to follow you and show your love through my actions, by seeking justice and showing mercy like Jesus. Amen.

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*written by Areo Keller-Donahue*

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