

Group/Individual Study

Series: Nehemiah: Rebuild, Restore, Renew

Passages: Nehemiah 4:1-15, 19-20

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 2/4

1. Read Nehemiah 4:1-15. Describe the escalation in the opposition that happens over the course of these verses. What was Nehemiah's response spiritually? What was his response in terms of other steps he took?
2. One of the takeaways from this week's message is that efforts to rebuild, renew, and restore things are *always* opposed. Why do you think this is? What form does it take? Have you ever experienced it?
3. Whenever Nehemiah came upon challenges and opposition, his first response was to go to God in prayer. How do you think this helped him overcome? How do you think it changed his outlook? Do you see evidence in the book of Nehemiah that God heard and responded to Nehemiah's prayers? How quick or slow are you to take things to prayer when you face challenges in life?
4. In addition to praying, Nehemiah took wise steps of action to respond the threats against God's people. What were some of these steps? How do you think Nehemiah's habit of prayer AND his good leadership related to each other?
5. Nehemiah is a beautiful example of how **faith & prayer** work in a partnership with **action and work** to achieve God's purposes. They almost function like the two wings of an airplane; together they give "lift" to God's agenda in the world. Which "wing of the airplane" (the prayer "wing" or the action "wing") is more natural to you? Which do you think God would have you grow in? Why?
6. Read verses 4:19-20. This is a beautiful analogy to how God's people rally to one another and to points of need in the world when people are in distress. Do you know anyone in your relational network who is "sounding the trumpet of distress" that God might be calling you to help this week?