

BEYOND SUNDAY

Built to Worship — 6.15.25

When the Walls Are Down — Mark Turney

- 1. Read Nehemiah 1:1–4 aloud.** What stands out to you about Nehemiah's reaction when he hears the news about Jerusalem? Why do you think his first response is weeping, mourning, and prayer instead of action or planning?
- 2. Reflect on verse 3:** *"Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace."* What do you imagine those returning exiles were feeling? Have you ever felt like you were trying to rebuild something important in your life while still surrounded by brokenness?
- 3. Nehemiah had never seen Jerusalem himself,** yet he weeps over its condition. Why do you think he cares so deeply? What causes you to feel holy grief today—for your family, your church, or your community?
- 4. "This is not the way it's supposed to be."** Where in your life, or in the life of the church, do you feel that sense? How does God want us to respond when we feel that holy discontent?

- 5. In verses 5–11, Nehemiah prays a powerful, God-centered prayer.** What does his prayer teach us about the character of God? How does he balance confession, hope, and boldness?
- 6. Nehemiah asks God for success before approaching the king.** What risks is Nehemiah taking here? What might it look like in your life to pray, "Give your servant success today..." in a specific situation where you feel called to act?
- 7. The sermon emphasized that Nehemiah's project was not just about rebuilding walls, but about rebuilding worship.** In what ways might God be calling us—individually and as a church—to renew our worship?
- 8. Nehemiah didn't weep over broken bricks—he wept over a broken mission.** Are there ways in which you've settled for "managing" your faith instead of rebuilding your trust, hope, and purpose?
- 9. Nehemiah was willing to leave behind comfort, security, and status to obey God.** Is there something you feel God may be calling you to leave behind in order to follow Him more fully? What might obedience cost you?
- 10. In what ways can you "take your place on the wall" this season at PCC?** What would it look like for you to help rebuild—not just programs, but a people built to worship and committed to the next generation?