

Building What Lasts

A SERIES IN NEHEMIAH

LIFE
GROUPS

WEEK 3 • SEPT 27

NORTHSHORE'S COMPELLING STATEMENT

Hope changes everything.

ICE BREAKER

What has it been like for you to give your strength to a project that has many team members? What keeps you engaged?

BACKGROUND

Nehemiah is a high-ranking Jewish officer in the government of the empire of Persia. God told Abraham that through his offspring the Lord would bless the world. Now Nehemiah is blessing the world through his wisdom and his work. He is part of the exilic community that was taken captive from Jerusalem and made to serve a foreign king. But now Nehemiah, like Daniel and Esther, has risen to a place that provides direct access to the seat of national power. While Nehemiah mourns the longstanding status of Jerusalem as a ruined city, the Lord shows favor to Nehemiah through the Persian king, who provides all the resources that Nehemiah would need to rebuild the walls of his destroyed city of Jerusalem. Nehemiah travels to Jerusalem, assesses the condition of the walls, and rallies God's people to arise and rebuild the city walls.

REVIEW

What was meaningful from the above context or the sermon from last Sunday?



KEY VERSES: Nehemiah 3:1

Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel.

READ: Nehemiah 3:1-32



HEAD LEVEL: *What does it say? These help us to examine what the Word tells us.*

1. Today's Scripture provides a stunning list of who did the work of rebuilding the wall. Scan through the chapter and see how many different types of workers and projects you can identify from the text.
2. Why is it important for the Word of God to list all these different types of skilled and unskilled workers who worked on repairing the wall of Jerusalem?
3. What equipment and tools may they have needed to do this work?



HEART LEVEL: *What does it mean? These questions help us shape our beliefs around the objective truth of God's word.*

1. Genealogies are important in Scripture and affirm that they were real people in a real place doing real work. It tells us that they knew who they were and how they were connected to the covenant promises of the Lord through their family line. What do these abbreviated genealogies teach us about the people who rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem?
2. To consecrate means to make holy (v. 1). The priests set apart their section of the wall as holy to the Lord. In what ways does the priestly role invite all the people to see their work as holy?
3. Verse 5 notes that the nobles of the Tekoites would not *stoop to serve their Lord*, but the people of Tekoa rose up and went to work nonetheless (v. 27). What does this say about the heart of the people of Tekoa?

DEEPER DISCOVERY

What do these passages say about the power of faithful workmanship in the Lord?

- Romans 12:3-8
- Colossians 3:17
- Colossians 4:12, 23
- Hebrews 10:24



HANDS LEVEL: *What does it mean to me? These questions help us commit to live out the truth in our everyday lives and commit to potential next steps.*

1. What is the Lord asking you to pick up and put back into its proper place?
2. Who can you help with their responsibilities before the Lord? Who could the Lord be calling to come and help you? What is it like when the Lord facilitates such energetic partnerships?
3. What lasting impacts might emerge from the faithful obedience of your team?



MEMORY VERSE: Nehemiah 3:27

Next to them, the men of Tekoa repaired another section, from the great projecting tower to the wall of Ophel. .

PRAYER REQUESTS:

(Please remember that these requests are confidential and need to stay within the group.)