



Nehemiah

Week 4: Building Through Opposition | Teacher: Libin Abraham
Sermon Questions for 10.26.2025

Opener

What is something that has been a burden for you that feels bigger than what you can do?

Read

Nehemiah 4; Ephesians 6:12;

Main Points

1. When we're walking in faithful obedience to Jesus we may face varying kinds of opposition and ridicule:
2. Attack #1: Public Ridicule - Sanballat wanted to make their past condition their permanent identity. Attack #2: Confusion - If Satan can get our eyes off the target, he can keep us fighting each other so we won't advance and accomplish the mission. Attack #3: Internal Discouragement and Fear - We may have reasons to fear, especially when the voices in opposition grow louder, and they may resonate deep within, causing us to doubt our ability to do what God has called us to do.
3. Powerful responses to the attacks: Response #1: Contending prayer - Nehemiah engaged in warfare through prayer. Response #2: Perseverance - prayer fuels perseverance, what if the answer to prayer is not a sudden miracle, but the grace to keep going...Response #3: Precaution - some problems require prayer and boundaries, some issues require prayer and counseling. We need prayer and action. Response #4: Gain Perspective - Though you hear the ridicule of those against you, don't forget that your God is great and is fighting for you.
4. Satan cannot destroy the church so he seeks to confuse and divide the church.
5. Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon their knees in prayer - it's more effective to have sore knees from praying, than to have sore thumbs from posting.
6. Jesus is not just our example, he is our champion.

Engage with God in a Group

- How have you experienced discouragement when you've stepped into obedience to Jesus?
- What has been your experience with contending prayers?
- When have you sensed God calling you to prayer and action?

Bottom Line

Action without prayer is arrogance pride, but prayer without action is a lack of trust that God wants to use us to make a difference.