Hope Church

Sunday Sermon 3/16/2025
To watch sermon, click here: 2025-03-16

Life Group Discussion Guide: Nehemiah

Session Goals

Main Idea:
God calls His people to work together in unity, each fulfilling their role, to build His kingdom with excellence and personal ownership.

Head Change:
Participants will recognize that every believer has a unique role in the work of God and that no job is insignificant in His Kingdom.

Heart Change:
Participants will develop a deeper sense of humility and gratitude, seeing service as an act of worship and a personal response to God's calling.

Life Change:
Participants will commit to engaging more fully in ministry, working alongside others, and contributing to the mission of the church with excellence and a servant's heart.

Opening Discussion

- Have you ever been part of a team or project where everyone had to pitch in to achieve something big? How did that feel?
- Think of a time when you were recognized (or not recognized) for your efforts. How did it affect your motivation?

Introduce today's focus: Nehemiah 3 records the people of Jerusalem coming together to rebuild the wall. While at first glance this chapter looks like a long list of names and jobs, it holds vital principles for how God's people accomplish His work.

Scripture Reading

📖 **Nehemiah 3:1-32**
Read aloud or silently, inviting participants to notice the repeated phrases like "next to him" or "after them."

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you as we read Nehemiah 3? Did anything surprise or inspire you?
2. Why do you think Nehemiah chose to list all the individuals and groups who worked on the wall?
3. How does the concept of "next to him" reflect the way the church is called to function today (see 1 Corinthians 12:18-27)?
4. How can leadership set the tone for how others engage in the work of ministry (compare with 1 Peter 5:2-3)?
5. What are some practical ways that we can ensure ministry is done with excellence, not just efficiency?
6. How do you respond when you see others not pulling their weight? How can we guard our hearts from bitterness or discouragement?
7. Why is it important to take personal ownership in the work of God, like the families who repaired the walls near their homes?
8. Reflect on your gifts and talents: where might God be calling you to “repair your section of the wall”?

Additional Reading and Reflection

- **1 Corinthians 12:12-27** – Unity in the Body of Christ.
- **Colossians 3:23-24** – Working as unto the Lord.
- **Romans 14:12** – Personal responsibility before God.

Reflection Questions:

- How is God calling you to contribute to the health and mission of your local church?
- What attitudes or habits might you need to change to serve with excellence?

Application and Personal Commitment

- Where is your "section of the wall" in the ministry of this church? Identify one practical way you can commit to serve in the coming weeks.
- Consider who you might "work next to" in ministry. Is there someone you can partner with or encourage?
- Pray for humility, perseverance, and a willingness to help others complete their work as well.

Last Word

The work God calls us to is never meant to be done alone. Just as Nehemiah's people rebuilt the wall together, shoulder to shoulder, God calls us to serve His church in unity and with excellence. Every task matters because every life matters. Our service—whether seen or unseen—is part of building a place where God's glory is made known to the world.

Let's be faithful to repair our section of the wall, knowing we stand side by side as one body in Christ.

Go Deeper (Optional Devotional)

Devotional Title: "Next to Them"

Read **Hebrews 10:24-25**

- How does encouraging one another help us persevere in God's work?
- How can you be someone who builds up and motivates others to continue faithfully serving?

Prayer Prompt:
"Lord, help me to serve joyfully and humbly, knowing that You are glorified in both the seen and unseen work of Your people. Make me a builder, a helper, and a servant in Your Kingdom."