

Dig Deeper into Nehemiah 3 “Working together to get the job done” for personal study and life groups



Summary of the sermon this week

1) Godly teamwork at its best – 3 principles

Priorities

Personal cost

Privilege

2) Toil and effort can be in vain – I want something that lasts!

The longing for our hard work to be lasting and significant should point us to the only work that is – the eternal project; the building of God’s people and God’s kingdom.

3) The impossible and lasting work is done, so do not give up!

Jesus has done what is impossible for man, by making us right with God. In light of that, give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord. (1 Corinthians 15:55-58)

1. *Encourage each other and get to know each other’s Christian journeys better. Raymond Brown said this of Nehemiah 3 ‘This list is not a dull recital of forgotten names; it preserves the story of heroic people who played their part in the continuity of the people of God.’ Share with each other someone you are thankful for because of their service of the Lord. Then spend time in prayer giving thanks!*
2. *Which principle of serving seen in Nehemiah 3 strikes you the most as a need for prayer as you think about how you serve the Lord? (Note there are many more principles of serving in Nehemiah 3, including commitment, enthusiasm, unity, using your gifts, long term vision. Do discuss any of these as well!)*
3. *How might Nehemiah 3 (in context with the rest of the book...and the rest of the Bible!) help us personally or help us in evangelism, especially in the context of seeing others and ourselves feeling dissatisfied with the toil and effort we/they put into life (work, homes, family).*
4. *Read 1 Corinthians 15:55-58. What is Paul’s logic for why we should keep serving? Why is that joyful and liberating to us?*
5. *What are you going to take away from Nehemiah 3? It might be more than one thing! Encouragement, challenge, rebuke, training, teaching? How has Nehemiah 3 pointed you to Jesus and his work? (Be specific!)*