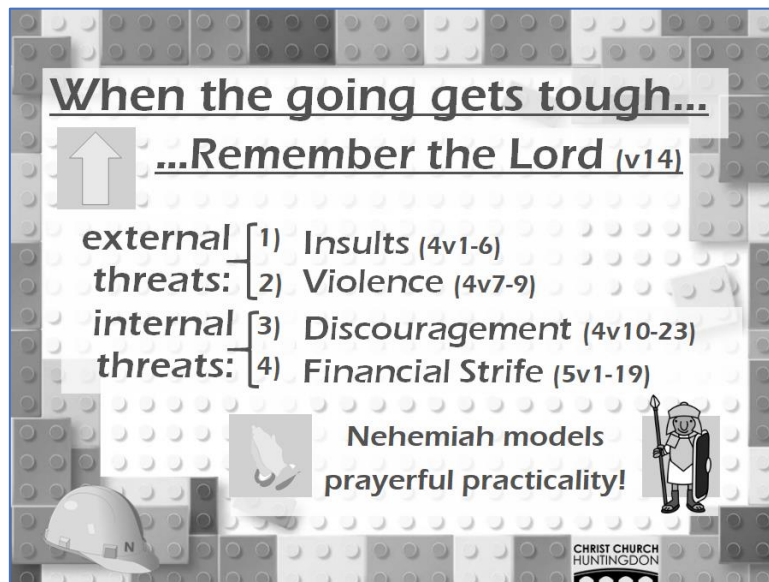


Dig Deeper into Nehemiah 4 & 5 for personal study and Life Groups...



Here are some questions to think more deeply about the passage from the sermon for yourself or in small groups this week...

Chapter 4

1. How would you describe Nehemiah's view of God in this chapter? Remember that when hardship next comes!
2. In which part of your life do you need to learn from Nehemiah's combination of "prayerful practicality"?

Quote from a talk on the storm on the Lake (Mark 4:35-41):

"Don't tell God how big the storm is, tell the storm how big your God is!"

Chapter 5

1. Can you review the people's circumstances, choices and consequences in v1-5? Which of these can you relate to at the moment?
2. In verses 6-13 how would you describe Nehemiah's response?
3. In verses 14-19 we see Nehemiah giving up the privileges that would have come to him as a governor under King Artaxerxes. What were the roots of it? What effect do you think it would have had on others? Following Jesus' example (Phil 2:6-8) what might you give up (not just in lent!) especially in areas where you are a leader.
4. Throughout these chapters Nehemiah has modelled to us a "reverence for God" (5v15). What will it take for God to instil that in us as a church? Pray for it.

Resources

- <https://www.dispatchesfromthefront.org/> Website about the videos and book (also available as audiobook) that Tim Keese (mentioned in the sermon) has made visiting Christians all over the world and hearing their stories of resilience and hope in the face of great difficulties.
- <https://watchjerusalem.co.il/671-elephantine-papyrus-proving-the-book-of-nehemiah> article about papyri found in Egypt which include mention of Sanballat the Horonite. See also Wikipedia on him and Tobiah the Ammonite.