

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

NEHEMIAH SERIES

These questions are for the **September 25, 2016** sermon, "The Wall Builders." Please read the sermon passage (Nehemiah 3:1-32) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

SPIRITUAL LEADERS SHOULD VALUE . . .

1. **The priority of exemplary initiative** (1-2)
 - A. On the one hand, be deliberate (wait, pray, evaluate the situation, plan wisely).
 - B. On the other hand, when the God-given plan crystallizes--"Turn vision into action."
2. **The security of people's lives** (3, 6, 13-15)
 - A. When people feel alone, exposed, defeated or endangered, it steals their motivation.
 - B. Where there is a sense of security there is greater opportunity for ministry.
3. **The variety of worker's abilities** (1, 8, 32)
 - A. Everyone brings a gift or ability. There are no small gifts.
 - B. The perfumers serve a crucial role in the building of the wall.
4. **The vicinity of various homes** (5, 10, 23, 28-30)
5. **The unity of personal relationships** (2, 12, 19)
 - A. Note that Nehemiah first identifies with the workers (2:17).
 - B. Nehemiah now helps each one see how they must work "next to" one another.
6. **The industry of all workers** (5, 27)
7. **The glory of God's desires** (Psalm 87:1-3)

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Leadership requires great wisdom. On the one hand, wait! Don't rush! But on the other hand, once the next step becomes clear, get busy. Post-haste. Don't delay. How can we wisely make certain that we are not too slow, and not too quick to act?
2. Based on #3, above: We naturally value the things we do well, and like our own opinions. But if we are going to produce great things for God's glory, we are going to have to learn to value every person's gift and ministry. Do you appreciate other people's gifts that ARE NOT LIKE yours? How do you work with them? How do you show your appreciation? Do you appreciate other people's gifts that ARE LIKE yours? How do you encourage them?
3. Based on #5, above: The person serving "next to you" may be very different from you. The key to unity is to choose to love and to focus on the task and the glory of God in accomplishing the task. Would you say that you are easy to work with? Do you swallow your differing opinion to promote unity and to get the job done? How is God convicting your heart in this area?
4. Based on #7, above: As you examine your life, how could you grow in the area of being motivated simply by seeing God's name glorified? How can we pray for you?