

JOIN THE JOURNEY™

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

NEHEMIAH 6

WEEK 48

“I Am Busy Listening to God”

Nehemiah 6:15-16

“So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in just fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard and all the nations who were around us saw this, they were greatly disheartened. They knew that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.”

❖ ICE BREAKER

1. What’s the most recent project you have worked on that involved a lot of people?

❖ DISCUSSION

2. God is about to finish a miracle through the Israelites remaining in Jerusalem. They are almost finished completing the wall which only took fifty-two days. The wall was critical to Israel’s security and was a symbol of the restoration of Jerusalem as a city. Is there something in your life that seems impossible and that only God can provide?
3. Scorn and force has failed. Now, Sanballat and Gesham are trying to appeal to Nehemiah’s arrogance. Read the first two verses of Chapter 6. His enemies are saying, “Come, let’s meet together. We need you for an important meeting.” They are persistent asking him four times to join them. Nehemiah doesn’t take the bait. Can you see through other’s flattery? Can you think of a time that you were fooled and used by someone because they flattered you?
4. Notice Nehemiah’s response. “I am too busy-I am doing a great work.” When dealing with those who you know mean you harm, there is no need to lecture or explain yourself. Read Matthew 10:16. What does Jesus mean when He says to be “as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves”?
5. Read Chapter 6:4-9 together as a group. What is the new strategy of Nehemiah’s enemies to cause fear and distraction?
6. Here is a principle: Whenever you are going to be called to accomplish a work for God, expect resistance from others. What kind of resistance have you encountered when accomplishing a work you know God has set before you?
7. In Chapters 7-8, Nehemiah calls all of the Israelites together to celebrate. When was the last time you celebrated a blessing that God provided with your friends? It’s important to celebrate God’s victories in our lives.
8. In Chapters 9-11, Nehemiah reviews the Israelites history and tendency to fall into sin and rebellion once God blesses them. He provides a warning to them and they all pledge to worship only God. We can be very vulnerable after our spiritual victories. What happened to the Israelites eventually? How can we keep from falling into the same trap?

❖ CASE STUDY

Based upon what we just studied in Nehemiah 6-11, how would you respond to the following situation?

A friend has come to you for advice. She is considering going into the mission field and leaving a secular job. What should she expect? How should she be sure that this is the vision God has for her life?

