



BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST

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September 17, 2025

Focus: Nehemiah – Rebuilding with God

Week 5: Integrity & Justice – Getting It Right Within

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It's one thing when opposition comes from the outside, but when it comes from within, that's a different kind of pain. That's the quickest way to derail the work God has called us to do. God called His people not just to rebuild the wall, but to rebuild each other. Sometimes the assignment exposes what we need to get right *within*, so that when we go out, we go in unity. As we study Nehemiah 5 tonight, let's ask ourselves:

☞ **Am I helping or hindering? Am I lifting up or loading down?**

A. Crying Out: Uncovering What's Been Concealed

📖 *Nehemiah 5:1–5*

- While the wall was being rebuilt, hidden problems surfaced.
- The people cried out **against their own brothers**, not their enemies.
- “And their wives” (v1) – When injustice hits the kitchen table, silence breaks. Why do we wait until it's on our doorstep before we do something?
- Rebuilding the wall uncovered:
 1. Those who owned no land but needed food to feed their increasing families
 2. Those who mortgaged property to get food because of the famine
 3. Those who borrowed to pay the king's taxes
 4. The wealthy Jews that were exploiting their brothers & sisters by loaning them money and then taking their property & children for collateral.

Reflection: The rebuilding didn't *create* these problems—it *revealed* them. What cries are we ignoring inside our own walls?

B. Righteous Anger: Confronting What's Been Concealed

📖 *Nehemiah 5:6–9*

- Nehemiah was **angry**, but he paused, prayed, and reflected before he responded.
- **Selfish anger** reacts. **Righteous anger** reflects, then restores.
- He confronted leaders first—the nobles and officials—reminding them of their responsibility to walk in the fear of God.

Reflection: When problems arise in our community, do we confront with selfish anger that tears down, or with righteous anger that builds up?



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C. A Call to Correction: Restoring What's Been Broken

📖 Nehemiah 5:10–13

- Nehemiah called everyone—including himself—to action.
- “Return to them this very day...” (v.11). Correction was not delayed.
- Accountability mattered: they swore before priests and leaders.
- Real correction restores relationships, not just systems.

Reflection: Where do we need to stop talking about change and *start living it out* right now?

D. Committing to Serve with Integrity & Justice: Leading by Example

📖 Nehemiah 5:14–19

- Nehemiah refused to exploit his position for personal gain.
- He modeled **servant leadership** and trusted God's provision.
- His prayer: “Remember for my good, O my God, all that I have done for this people” (v.19).

Reflection: Leadership in God's kingdom requires fairness, generosity, integrity, and justice. How do we get it right within the walls?

Key Takeaway

Rebuilding is never just about walls—it's about people.

- The **cry** uncovered what was concealed.
 - **Righteous anger** confronted what was wrong.
 - **Correction** restored what was broken.
 - Commitment to serve faithfully with **integrity & justice**
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Reflection:

1. What “cries” inside the church do we tend to ignore, and why?
2. How can we discern the difference between selfish anger and righteous anger?
3. What does real correction look like in relationships today?
4. In your own role (leader, parent, friend, servant), how can you commit to serve with integrity and justice this week?

If Beulah closed her doors tonight, would we be remembered as a church that chose **service over status? Love over selfishness? Integrity over preference & favoritism? Justice over comfort & convenience?**

The wall isn't the only thing He's rebuilding – He's rebuilding us.