



Unified to Complete God's Vision Nehemiah 1-6

What does the Bible teach?

We build unity on the foundation of God's vision. (v. 2:18)

We demonstrate unity by coming together. (v. 3:1-3ff;)

We maintain unity by staying focused on the Lord's vision. (v. 4:6, 15, 21; 6:15-16)

We protect unity by obeying the Lord together. (v. 5:12-13)

What should they do?

Commit to love God and to love people.

Replace your plans with God's plans.

Stay focused on Jesus and put him first.



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Group Discussion

1. What does the passage say?

What is the writer ultimately trying to communicate to his readers? What issue is the writer addressing?

2. What did this passage mean to its original audience?

How would a 1st Century Christ-follower receive this message?

3. What does this passage tell us about God?

Explain what you understand about God from the text. Is that a new idea or truth for you?

4. What does this passage tell us about man?

In your own words share what this passage encourages us to do to follow Jesus more fully and faithfully?

5. What does this passage demand of me?

Personally speaking, what areas of living in relationship with Jesus do you need to address?
How should you live in light of what this passage says?

6. How does this passage change the way I relate to people?

What does this passage communicate about the need for grace and humility in community with others? Whom should I invite to seek Jesus?

7. What does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

Are you in need of forgiveness or repentance?
Do you need to intercede for others?
Do you need an "extra measure" of faith to follow Jesus or engage the community and world?

Nehemiah 6

Now when Sanballat and Tobiah and Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies heard that I had built the wall and that there was no breach left in it (although up to that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), 2 Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come and let us meet together at Hakkephirim in the plain of Ono." But they intended to do me harm. 3 And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" 4 And they sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. 5 In the same way Sanballat for the fifth time sent his servant to me with an open letter in his hand. 6 In it was written, "It is reported among the nations, and Geshem also says it, that you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall. And according to these reports you wish to become their king. 7 And you have also set up prophets to proclaim concerning you in Jerusalem, 'There is a king in Judah.' And now the king will hear of these reports. So now come and let us take counsel together." 8 Then I sent to him, saying, "No such things as you say have been done, for you are inventing them out of your own mind." 9 For they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done." But now, O God, strengthen my hands.

13 For this purpose he was hired, that I should be afraid and act in this way and sin, and so they could give me a bad name in order to taunt me. 14 Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid.

15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days.

16 And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.