

THE MIDWAY CHALLENGE pt. 2
6-07-26
Mark McCartin

Neh 2:20 *I answered them by saying, "The **God** of heaven will **give us success. We** his servants **will start** rebuilding.
We serve & work because God is at work.*

Phil 2:12–13 God's activity is the reason for our activity,

C. Challenge #3: One Thing After Another (Neh 4:10–12)

Neh 4:10 *Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The **strength** of the laborers is **giving out**, and there is **so much rubble** that **we cannot** rebuild the wall."*

Neh 4:11-12 *Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and **will kill them** and put an end to the work." ¹² Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us."*

3. Guarding the Vulnerable places (Neh 4:13)

Neh 4:13 *Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.*

4. Fight For Others (Neh 4:14)

Neh 4:14 *After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."*

Neh 4:15 *When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.*

I. Lessons We Learn from Those Who've Rebuild Well.

1. An Honest Beginning (Neh 2:12-20)

Rebuilding begins with an honest assessment.

Neh 2:17 *"You see the trouble we are in: Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace!"*

Neh 2:18 *I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.*

2. Persevering Through the Challenging Middle

A. Challenge #1: Discouragement (Neh 2:19-20; 4:1–6)

Neh 4:4-6 *Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads... ⁵ for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders. ⁶ So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.*

In seasons of discouragement - keep showing up by bringing your best self to your: walk with God, marriage, parenting, ministry, relationships...

Gal 6:9 *Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*

B. Challenge #2: Physical _____ (Neh 4:7–9)

Neh 4:9 *But we **prayed to our God** and **posted a guard** day and night to meet this threat.*

Trust and action.

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