

2021 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

August 8

Pastor Aaron continued the current series entitled: "From the Ground Up" out of the Book of Nehemiah. This week his topic was on the **Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity** that we can sometimes experience, especially in times like these. **VOLATILITY** is a result of things changing so fast and **UNCERTAINTY** is a result of our inability to predict what is next. As we encounter multiple and competing forces with no clear cause & effect, we are confronted with the **COMPLEXITY** of things. There is a haziness of reality that can cause us to misread things due to the **AMBIGUITY**. For many of us this season has been filled with V.U.C.A. and this week's message helps us to put that into perspective.

Community Prayer:

Eternal Father, we look forward to seeking your guidance and direction today as we deal with Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity. All of us are having to deal with this on a daily basis as we are challenged by this Delta Variant and other situations in our lives. We put our trust and hope in you to prepare our hearts and minds to realize how much you love us and have a plan and purpose for everything you allow us to go through; in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Opening Questions

1. Have you heard about V.U.C.A. before? What are your thoughts? If not, what are your initial thoughts after hearing about V.U.C.A. (VOLATILITY, UNCERTAINTY, COMPLEXITY, AND AMBIGUITY?)

EXPLORATION

Read the passages below...what can you learn about what it means to follow Jesus from these passages? (Have someone read from their bible)

Opposition from the outside

Nehemiah 4:1-3

2. Where do you see V.U.C.A. pop up in your own life or in the life of someone around you?
3. What is an example of conflict that Nehemiah faced that stands out to you?
 - a. What is a similar example in your life or in our world?

Nehemiah 4:4-6

4. Nehemiah's first response after this attack was to pray, what is your first response following an attack?



2021 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

- a. Give an example of when you went to prayer as a first response or a time when you WISHED you would have.
5. What do you appreciate about the way that Nehemiah faced the opposition in his life?

Nehemiah 4:9

6. Why is it important for you to take some action steps following your prayers to God?

Opposition from the Inside

Nehemiah 4:10

7. In what ways do you feel like you sometimes contribute to the conflict/opposition, or V.U.C.A. in any given week? (ie: gossip, complaining, slander, not giving the benefit of the doubt, etc.)
 - a. What are better ways to respond to these challenges of life?

Nehemiah 5:1-12

8. Have you ever been taken advantage of by a family member or a close friend? How did you handle the situation? Prayer? Retreat? Confront? Talk about which direction (or combination) you took and the result. Do you wish you had done it differently?

Opposition that is Personal

Nehemiah 6:3-4

9. How have you experienced different kinds of opposition or conflict?
 - a. From the outside? From the inside? The Personal kind?

Nehemiah 6:15-16

10. How can turning to Jesus bring the hope we desperately need in times of V.U.C.A.?
 - a. How does He accomplish the move to faithful, understanding, dependence?

THE TAKEAWAY

The Antidote to V.U.C.A. (Note the "DOUBLE V.U.C.A.")

- Volatility is cured by **Vision**
- Uncertainty is cured by **Understanding**
- Complexity is cured by **Courage**
- Ambiguity is cured by **Adaptability**

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."



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WEEKLY GUIDE

When you are the cause of V.U.C.A.

- Remember God: gracious, merciful, willing to forgive
- Remember Paul:
 - **Acts 9:1-2** "Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem."
- Remember your salvation:
 - **Revelation 12:10-11** "Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death."

PRAYER REQUESTS
