

## SEQUOIA NOTES

### Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

#### A Passion to Rebuild

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor  
May 24, 2020



Nehemiah 2:11-14 (NLT) So I arrived in Jerusalem. Three days later, <sup>12</sup>I slipped out during the night, taking only a few others with me. I had not told anyone about the plans God had put in my heart for Jerusalem. We took no pack animals with us except the donkey I was riding. <sup>13</sup>After dark I went out through the Valley Gate, past the Jackal's Well, and over to the Dung Gate to inspect the broken walls and burned gates.<sup>14</sup> Then I went to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but my donkey couldn't get through the rubble.

#### How do we lead change to a preferred future?

- **We plan wisely.**

Nehemiah 2:15-16 (NLT) So, though it was still dark, I went up the Kidron Valley instead, inspecting the wall before I turned back and entered again at the Valley Gate. <sup>16</sup>The city officials did not know I had been out there or what I was doing, for I had not yet said anything to anyone about my plans. I had not yet spoken to the Jewish leaders—the priests, the nobles, the officials, or anyone else in the administration.

- **We envision a preferred future.**

Nehemiah 2:17-18 (NLT) But now I said to them, "You know very well what trouble we are in. Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire. Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace!" <sup>18</sup>Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, "Yes, let's rebuild the wall!" So they began the good work.

- **We harness the power of "us".**

Nehemiah 2:17b "Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace!"

Nehemiah 3:28 "Each one repaired the section immediately across from his own house."

- **We trust God with the results.**

Nehemiah 2:19-20a "But when Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem the Arab heard of our plan, they scoffed contemptuously. 'What are you doing? Are you rebelling against the king?' they asked. I replied, 'The God of heaven will help us succeed. We, his servants, will start rebuilding this wall.'"

Matthew 21:5 quoting Zechariah 9:9 "Tell the people of Jerusalem, 'Look, your King is coming to you. He is humble, riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey's colt.'"

Mark 11:8-10 (NLT) "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup>Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David! Praise God in highest heaven!"

**Big Idea: We lead wisely with Christ as our King to experience a better future.**

- 1) Are you seeking God's will in His Word?
- 2) Are there areas of your life that you need to still surrender to the loving leadership of JC?
- 3) What assignment is God asking you to join with others to help lead change?



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
live out our identity as a  
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

**impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org**

**A Passion to Rebuild  
#2 of 6 - May 24, 2020**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you? Share about a time when you sought to lead change. How did that go?

3) Read Nehemiah 2:11-16. What do you find interesting about Nehemiah's approach to planning? What can we learn from this?

4) Read Nehemiah 2:17-18. How does Nehemiah cast vision for a better future? How can we see the opportunities within the obstacles of Covid-19? How could our church be stronger as a result of this challenge?

5) Read Nehemiah 2:17 and 3:26-32. What can we learn about delegation and teamwork from this passage? How does this relate to the Body of Christ?

6) Read Nehemiah 2:19-20. What does it look like to trust God for the results? How is God's definition of success different than our definition of success?

7) How does the reality of Jesus, the cross, empty tomb, and ascension, impact us as we seek to lead change? Take time to prayerfully reflect on the 3 action steps below.

- Are you seeking God's will in His Word? How can you grow in this?
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