

What you will need to supplement this guide:

1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP).
2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW

NOTE to the LIFEgroup Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended “talk starters”. It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

- REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

- SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today?

How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

REBUILD “Overcoming”

“When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, “What are those feeble Jews doing...?” But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem’s walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it... 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.” Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.”

Nehemiah 4:1-12 (NIV)

Types of opposition:

- Ridicule (vs.1-2a)
- Organized Resistance (vs.7-8)
- Persistent Rumors (vs.11-12)

“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. Also our enemies said, “Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them.

Nehemiah 4:10-11 (NIV)

Effects of Opposition – You feel:

1. Tired -- “the strength of the laborers is giving out”
2. Overwhelmed -- “there was so much rubble”
3. Discouraged -- “we cannot rebuild the wall”
4. Afraid -- “our enemies... will attack us”

“So we rebuilt the wall until all of it reached half of its height.”

Nehemiah 4:6 (NIV)

What’s the right response to opposition?

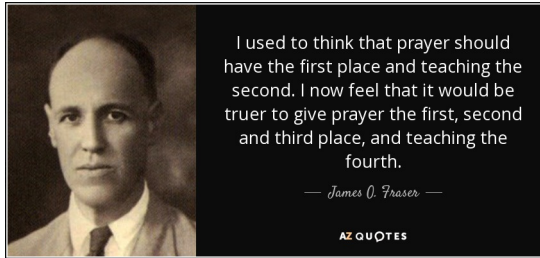
1. Pray hard

Nehemiah was a man of constant prayer:

- He prayed for forgiveness. (Nehemiah 1:6-7)
- He prayed for justice. (Nehemiah 4:4-5)
- He prayed for God’s favor. (Nehemiah 5:19)
- He prayed for strength. (Nehemiah 6:9)
- He prayed for revenge. (Nehemiah 6:14)
- He prayed a prayer of praise. (Nehemiah 9:5-15)
- He prayed for mercy. (Nehemiah 13:22)

How important is it for us to pray during every season of our lives!

“Then I prayed: “Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight.”
Nehemiah 4:4-5 (NIV)



"We prayed to our God and we posted a guard day and night to meet this threat."
Nehemiah 4:9 (NIV)

The only thing more powerful than you praying? Pray-ers praying!

Jesus: *"Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*
Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

"Pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16 (NIV)

- Coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1-2)
- Praying for Peter's release from prison (Acts 12:5)
- Confirmation to send Paul and Barnabas on missionary journey (Acts 13:2)

2. Be deliberate about a LIFE group.

"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."
Nehemiah 4:13 (NIV)

"Pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!" Ecclesiastes 4:10 (NIV)

3. Refuse to give up.

"We all returned to the wall, each to his own work." Nehemiah 4:15 (NIV)
"So we continued to work..." Nehemiah 4:21 (NIV)

4. Replace Doom-scrolling with Hope-scrolling

"After I looked things over I stood up and I said to the nobles and the officials the rest of the people, 'Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord is great and awesome... Our God will fight for us!'"
Nehemiah 4:14, 20 (NIV)

"Our God will fight for us!" Nehemiah 4:20 (NIV)