

Sermon 7:

HATERS GONNA HATE



Memory Verse:

Psalm 33:4

For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

Sermon Sentence:

When God is moving...expect people to turn against you.

Discuss your reaction to the sermon sentence.

Read Nehemiah 4:1-18

Discuss something that touched you in the sermon this week.

Discuss something that touched you in the devotions this week.

The sermon addressed a process in which others try to discourage you:

1. They talk behind your back (Nehemiah 2:19 and 4:1)
2. They discourage you (Nehemiah 4:3)
3. They convince other people about you (Nehemiah 4:7)
4. They physically try to hinder the work you are doing (Nehemiah 4:8)
5. They attempt to confuse the unity (Nehemiah 4:8)
6. They convince some to join them (Nehemiah 4:12)

Discuss how this process can affect the mission of carrying out God's work.

Sermon Application

1. Head off the attack with prayer.
 - Read Nehemiah 4:7-9
 - Discuss how this strategy of dealing with opposition can be applied today.
2. Recognize who is the true enemy.
 - John 10:10, 1 Peter 5:8

3. Be careful how much time you give to those who oppose you.

Nehemiah 6:1-3

Discuss why it is better to focus on the work rather than the opposition.

4. React to those opposing you in a way which is pleasing to God

James 1:19

Proverbs 15:18, 16:32, 17:27

Discuss why doing this is such a challenge.

5. Don't put down your sword (the Word of God).

Take it home:

Find out where in your life **you** are playing the role of Sanballat and Tobiah and repent.

Go through each sermon application point and change the way you are responding to the Sanballats and Tobiahs in your life today.