

Encounter Church
Sunday November 23, 2025

Together We Build
Let Us Arise and Build (Part 2)

INTRODUCTION: Nehemiah received a commission from the Lord to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem that were decayed and broken down and fallen, leaving the people of God without defense, and leaving the people of God in despair.

Last Sunday Pastor Justin started this two-part message talking about principles that Nehemiah practiced in rebuilding the walls around Jerusalem.

1. Nehemiah Fixed his Focus
2. Nehemiah Found the Facts
3. Nehemiah Formed a Fellowship

A key statement Pastor Justin made last week. “You can’t “Form a Fellowship” until you “Fix Your Focus” and “Find out the Facts.”

THE FOURTH PRINCIPLE NEHEMIAH PRACTICED IN REBUILDING THE WALLS:

4. Nehemiah Fortified His Faith

Nehemiah fixed his focus, found out the facts, formed a fellowship. Friends, we’re going to do this together, and it’s going to be wonderful and it’s going to be glorious!

The next thing Nehemiah did was he *Fortified his Faith*.

Nehemiah 2:18 (NLT)- “Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king.”

I love that verse! I want God’s hand on my life! ***Also notice it’s the gracious hand of God on my life! The good hand of God on my life!***

HOW DID NEHEMIAH FORTIFY HIS FAITH?

In the above scripture Nehemiah was speaking in the past tense. He was reminding himself and all the others of ***the gracious hand of God on his life!***

He was reminding himself and the others that they were all part of God’s plan because God is a planner!

He was reminding himself and the others of God's provision and God's protection!

Nehemiah was rehearsing what God had done in the past!

Friends we fortify our faith for today and tomorrow! when we remind ourselves of what God has done in the past!

Hebrews 13:8 (NLT)- "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Psalms 126:1-6 (NLT)- "When the Lord brought back his exiles to Jerusalem, it was like a dream! We were filled with laughter, and we sang for joy. And the other nations said, "What amazing things the Lord has done for them. "Yes, the Lord has done amazing things for us! What joy! Restore our fortunes, Lord, as streams renew the desert. Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy. They weep as they go to plant their seed, but they sing as they return with the harvest."

Psalms 126:4 (TPT) - "Now, Lord, do it again! Restore us to our former glory!"

If God did it, then He will do it again!

GOD'S NOT DONE FRIENDS!

The gracious hand of God is upon us. It's simply the good hand of God is on us. It's not about what we've done or deserve! It's about His goodness!

FIX YOUR FOCUS! FIND THE FACTS! FORM THE FELLOWSHIP! FORTIFY YOUR FAITH!

5. Nehemiah Faced His Foe

Nehemiah 2:19-20 (NLT)- "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. But you have no share, legal right, or historic claim in Jerusalem."

Anytime God's people say, "Let us arise and build," in their personal life or corporate life, all the hosts of hell will say, "Let us arise and stop them!"

The door of opportunity swings on the hinges of opposition!

Never forget that! If you think there's an easy way, cheap way, lazy way, to do the work of God, forget it!

1Corinthians 16:9- “But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.”

Friends we are not having a Sunday School picnic here but a grim conflict with our enemy!

You see were coming against the demonized, mobilized forces of hell in this city!

You know, I'd hate to be a person or a church the devil isn't after!

Romans 8:31(NLT)-“.....If God is for us, who can ever be against us?”

1John 4:4 (NKJV)- “You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

Have you fixed your focus on what God has for you? Have you found out the facts? Have you formed a fellowship with friends? Have you fortified your faith? Have you faced your foe?

6. Nehemiah Fulfilled His Function

Not only did they face their foe, but they fulfilled their function!

Nehemiah 3:1-3 (NLT)-“Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests and built the Sheep Gate; they consecrated it and hung its doors. They built as far as the Tower of the Hundred, and consecrated it, then as far as the Tower of Hananel. Next to Eliashib the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built. Also, the sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate; they laid its beams and hung its doors with its bolts and bars.”

And on and on it reads like this: so and so built here; so and so built here...”

a. There's a Pattern

God had a plan! God gave this plan to His spiritual leadership! The people recognized God's chain of authority; and they were willing to follow God's man, and they were willing to do what God's man asked them to do.

b. There's the People

There was a job for everyone!

There were apothecaries, goldsmiths, priests, different craftsman! Some were old and some were young. ***But they were all doing their part!***

These are days of opportunities. Golden and glorious days! Don't miss it! God forbid that we miss our days of opportunity!

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)- "God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."

c. There's the Place

Not only is there a pattern, a people but there's also a place. A place for you to build on the wall!

Notice, they were building right near their own house.

That's where it starts. Near your own house. Near your heart! Near your family!

Pray with your family and ask them "what part should we have in this."

What is the Woolf family going to do? What is your family going to do? What part does God want us to have in this thing!

One woman was getting all mixed up into politics, and she was trying to get a certain man elected to an office. And she hadn't been doing much around the house. But when she told her husband "I believe we're going to sweep the state," he said, "I'd suggest you start at the back door."

WHAT IS YOUR FUNCTION? WOULD YOU ASK YOURSELF THAT? FIND YOUR PLACE ON THE WALL AND BE FAITHFUL AT THAT PLACE!

CONCLUSION: In Dallas, Texas, there were two teenage boys-troublemakers, juvenile delinquents. Both had a Sunday School Teacher. One of the teachers visited his student again and again. That juvenile was Jim Ponder who became the Director of Evangelism in the Florida Baptist Convention.

The other Sunday School teacher would have nothing to do with his student. He said "I don't want that kind of boy in my class. Well that boy assassinated John F. Kennedy. The was Lee Harvey Oswald. ***When you do your part, it makes a difference!***

Ephesians 4:16 (NLT)- "He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."

Have you fixed your focus? Have you found the facts? Have you formed the fellowship? Have you Fortified your Faith. Have you faced your foe? Are You Fulfilling Your Function? Doing your part? Let's Pray