



NEHEMIAH

GOD REBUILDS & RESTORES

Rebuilding Together

October 27 & 28 // Jim Johnson

There was a SHARED _____

Nehemiah 2:17-18

There was also a SHARED _____

Nehemiah 3:1-32; 1 Corinthians 12:14-26; Ephesians 4:15-16

TIME WITH GOD: If you don't currently have a Bible reading plan, you can download "Our Time with God" at spcc.tv/resources

REFLECTIONS: Whether you're using SPCC's reading plan or a different one, think about your time hearing and responding to Jesus this week. In your conversations with Him, describe one thing you felt Him speaking to you about.

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTION: What did Jesus impress on your heart through Jim's message this weekend?

“Then I said, ‘You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision.’ And then I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me...”

*Sometimes it takes a stranger to see sharply what has been softened by familiarity. Nehemiah’s perspective is significant. On the debit side it is the disgrace, not the insecurity of their position, which strikes him—for Jerusalem should be seen as ‘the city of the great King’ and ‘the joy of all the earth’. On the credit side he speaks first of the hand of God upon him, and only then of the words of the king. This was indeed the right order, as cause and effect. It is also his genuine conviction and as such it was infectious.—Derek Kidner—
Tyndale Commentary*

MY PERSPECTIVE: Have you ever worked together with other people to build something? If so, describe.

DIGGING DEEPER: Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-26. In these verses, Paul describes two incorrect attitudes: arrogance, “I have no need of you,” and inferiority, “Because I am not an eye, I don’t belong to the body.” Which of these attitudes do you tend to struggle with more? Describe how that attitude can hinder your contribution to the Body of Christ.

Exalt God by following Jesus together as family, being transformed by His grace, engaging the broken with His love.

As you read SPCC’s mission, do you share it? Is there a particular part of it that resonates with your heart?



Ephesians 4:7-16. Paul ends the section as it began, with a reference to Christ's gift of power to every believer in a portion equal to that believer's role in building up Christ's body. The Christ who gives these gifts, we're reminded, is the Christ who has conquered all the evil forces of the universe, wherever they are located. He is, therefore, powerful enough to equip the church to keep false teaching at bay, maintain its unity, and reach its destiny of full union with Him...Paul demonstrates that the same power made available to him to fulfill the important responsibility that God has given him has also been given to every individual within the church to work for the church's unity and maturity. Christ...has given every believer a role in supporting the church's growth. The more mature the church becomes, the more effective it will be at refuting false teaching and maturing into the body of Christ. For this to happen, each connection within the body must lovingly contribute to the body's growth.—Frank Thielman, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament

...when each part is working properly...Where is your spot on the wall?

MY RESPONSE: Read Ephesians 4:11-16. In Neh. 3, we see everyone, regardless of their gifting, working together to accomplish the mission. Whether your part feels “significant” or not, describe how your participation in SPCC is contributing to the mission God has given us.

Is there a step God would have you take in order to take your “place on the wall” here at SPCC? Describe.

