

We Can't Rest Yet
Nehemiah 4:6-14

Nehemiah 4:6-14

6. So we rebuilt the wall until the entire wall was joined together up to half its height, for the people had the will to keep working.
7. When Sanballat, Tobiah, and the Arabs, Ammonites, and Ashdodites heard that the repair to the walls of Jerusalem was progressing and that the gaps were being closed, they became furious.
8. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and throw it into confusion.

9. So we prayed to our God and stationed a guard because of them day and night.
10. In Judah, it was said: The strength of the laborer fails, since there is so much rubble. We will never be able to rebuild the wall.
11. And our enemies said, “They won’t know or see anything until we’re among them and can kill them and stop the work.”
12. When the Jews who lived nearby arrived, they said to us time and again, “Everywhere you turn, they attack us.”

13. So I stationed people behind the lowest sections of the wall, at the vulnerable areas. I stationed them by families with their swords, spears, and bows.

14. After I made an inspection, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the great and awe-inspiring Lord, and fight for your countrymen, your sons and daughters, your wives and homes.”



Progress

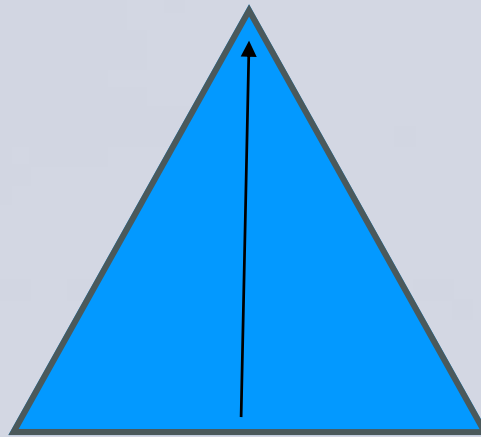
- Vs. 6 “So we rebuilt the wall until the **entire wall was joined together** up to half its height”
- Vs. 7 “The repair to the walls of Jerusalem was **progressing**”
 - **Progress:** We have continued to grow numerically

1

- **Progress:** We have moved to a new level in our music ministry
- **Progress:** We have moved to a new level in our youth ministry
- **Progress:** The establishment of LifeChoice
- **Progress:** We have moved to a new building and are learning how to use it.

- Vs. 7 “The **gaps** were being closed”
 - **Gap:** Youth are still waiting for their specifically designed space (95-100% full)
 - **Gap:** Our children (grades 1-6) have good space, but need even more (115% full)
 - **Gap:** Transfer growth is good, but we need to reach more people who are not in church
 - **Gap:** Creating new units & developing new leaders

To Build a Taller Pyramid
You have to build a wider base



1

- Gaps outside our church
Dreams of future ministries...

Crisis of Will

- Vs. 6 “The entire wall was joined together up to **half** its height, for the people had the will to keep working”
- Vs. 10 “In Judah, it was said: **The strength of the laborer fails**, since there is **so much** rubble. We will never be able to rebuild the wall.”

Reasons for Weariness

2

- Adjusting
- Learning & growing
- Working

“So we must not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don’t give up.” - Galatians 6:9

Enemies

- Vs. 11 “And our **enemies...**”
- Vs. 7 “They became **furious**”
- Vs. 8 “They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and throw it into **confusion.**”
- Vs. 11 “And our enemies said, ‘They won’t know or see anything until we’re among them and can kill them and **stop the work.**’”

Listeners

- Vs. 12 “When the Jews who lived nearby arrived, they said to us time and again, ‘Everywhere you turn, they attack us.’”

Pray-ers

- Vs. 9 “So we prayed to our God...”

Vigilance

- Vs. 9 “So we prayed to our God and stationed a guard because of them day and night.”
- Vs. 13 “So I stationed people behind the lowest sections of the wall, at the vulnerable areas”

- Vs. 16 “From that day on, half of my men did the work while the other half held spears, shields, bows, and armor.”
- Vs. 18 “Each of the builders had his sword strapped around his waist while he was building, and the trumpeter was beside me.”
- Vs. 23 “And I, my brothers, my men, and the guards with me never took off our clothes. Each carried his weapon, even when washing.”

Inspection

7

- Vs. 14 “After I made an inspection...”
- What gets inspected gets done

Inspection

7

Personal Self-Evaluation Guide

Mark, fold, place in your Bible, & consider

Internal

Thought-Life & Attitudes

Up Down Holding Strong Weak

Scripture Meditation

Focused Distracted Neglected

Sin I haven't Dealt with in My Life?

Yes No

>

Inspection

7

External

Bible Study No. of Days _____

Prayer No. of Days _____

Church Attendance

No. services since last Sunday night? ____

Shared the Faith this Past Week

Yes No No, but built a bridge

All Relationships OK? Yes No

Tithing? Yes No Taking Steps toward it

Remember...

8

- **Remember Who You are Fighting For**
 - Vs. 14 “I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people, ‘Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the great and awe-inspiring Lord, and fight for your countrymen, your sons and daughters, your wives and homes.’”
- **Remember Who Fights Alongside You**
 - Vs. 20 “...Our God will fight for us!”

- Remember that We all Need Each Other
 - Vs. 19-20 “Then I said to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people: ‘The work is enormous and spread out, and we are separated far from one another along the wall. Wherever you hear the trumpet sound, rally to us there.’”

