

Community Group Study Guide

Determined & Courageous Nehemiah 2

Main Idea

The advancement of God's glory through the courage of His people amidst opposition

I. God's man is prepared and courageous

- A. Nehemiah has prayed and fasted for four months since hearing the news
- B. Nehemiah asks Artaxerxes to leave and rebuild Jerusalem; the king gave him all he asked for
- C. Though the consequences could have been great, Nehemiah stood for the Lord in the face of this king who had previously been opposed to such work because he was jealous for God's glory

II. Where there is courage & devotion to God there is opposition

- A. Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem oppose Nehemiah's mission
- B. Battle lines are drawn
- C. Where there is faithfulness to the mission there will be opposition

III. Leaders of God define and motivate people of God

- A. Nehemiah surveys work, and defines what needs to be done to people of God
- B. Inspires the workers and claims God's hand of favor in this effort
 - 1. People respond favorably
- C. Nehemiah goes on to proclaim that it is God that will have them to prosper

Questions

1. Why is it male leadership and participation in general lacks in the church in America? How can we (male or female) engage and invite men to be Biblical men in view of their obvious absence?
2. What does Nehemiah do in these early phases that has us to learn what a true Godly leader looks like? Specifically, how does his courage play into his jealousy for God?
3. When considering opposition in the face of faithfulness, how does this encourage or discourage you? How can the church withstand such voices?
4. When thinking about God as the one who ultimately prospers in the work of the mission at hand, how is it we say things like we read in vs. 20, yet actively participate in the process?
5. Where is it in this passage we learn about the fact that this story is more than rebuilding walls? Why is this important?