

## Lesson 4 – Nehemiah 4

Lesson Title: FIGHT FOR OUR FAMILY

Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 4: 1 – 14 (focus verses 10-14)

In this lesson, we will explore three principles .They are: **Remain FOCUSED – FAITHFUL and FERVANT** 

The goal of Nehemiah in this chapter was to inspire the people to maintain a mind to work and stay the course – while recognizing the enemy opposes God's work and to 'fight' for their families! Rebuilding was part of the assignment and the fight.

#### **Opening Questions:**

Do you recall a time when you were giving up on a family matter changing for the better because there was so much opposition and negativity? What was the outcome of that?

No matter what your answer was, may this lesson encourage you that despite the past- God wants us to FIGHT for family wholeness. It is healthy and cultivates a legacy of FAITH for our families.

## 1. Fact on remaining FOCUSED:

Don't be surprised at having opposition and an enemy because they that live Godly will suffer \_\_\_\_\_\_ (see 2 Tim 3:12). Let's face it - **we are in spiritual warfare- period!** 

**Read verses 2 – 3**. The enemy is demotivating saying a fox could knock it down... your wall is pathetic. discouragement (See John 10:10)... satan wants to DESTROY ...

- a. The way of the Lord is TO BUILD and the way of tsatan is to TEAR DOWN
- b. Satan sends messages YOU CAN'T DO IT! God says: WE CAN DO ALL THINGS through CHRIST (Phi. 4:13)

Notice in **verse 4:** Nehemiah's prays immediately! HE TURNS TO GOD. **He does not take revenge ...he simply prays to GOD for HELP!** Check out Romans 12:19. Let's never avenge ourselves, vengeance is mine– I will repay says God! Just pray of JUSTICE. In other words, God – deal with them! Matthew 5:44 – bless and prayer for our enemies -

c. Nehemiah puts the judgement in God's hands not his own hands! Why is it so hard 'not' to defend ourselves?

#### 2. Fact on remaining FAITHFUL

Verse 6: He didn't just pray – they went back to WORK and the *people had a MIND TO WORK*...

- a. Chapter 3 the right thing is to STAY FAITHFUL
- b. See Colossians 3:23 Do it as unto the Lord...
- c. In our family household: The goal of S U R F'in is to be Unified with a mind to work to break the DIVISION in our homes / families. There's power when we join TOGETHER united in purpose!

Verse 7 – of course - more opposition kept coming!

The enemy of our Family journey can show up in clusters and be irritating.; that is: escalating the weapon of opposition – a much stronger force. This reminds that the enemy hates the people of God!

## Why do you think the enemy hates God's people and God's

*work? Notice:* Keep pressuring them would get them to GIVE UP! Like a school bully...

When we stand up to adversity (He is the adversary) - he attacks !

#### What is their response?

Verse 9 – **PRAY AGAIN!** God help us – we're looking to you ... Set a guard – day & night – they were vigilant

Here's 1 Peter 5:8 in ACTION...– BE SOBER ... the devil roars but is a fake!

#### Verses 10 - 13:

Discouragement kept coming... some people got hopeless – before they were optimistic – but their eyes were focused on tasks and not the TASK MASTER! Like Peter on the water – he was focused on his weakness...instead of focused on JESUS – THE WORD!

They weren't experts of rebuilding and the negative reports were constantly coming in ... *how do we keep going with threats of being KILLED?* 

God wants us to have FAITH but satan wants us to have DOUBT. BUT we can't ignore the threat. Notice, Nehemiah STATIONED PEOPLE with the ARMOR of GOD... standing guard. Also, notice the workers <u>and</u> also – the soldiers were in place! This says – even while we work – we must be vigilant and armor up; that is, PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD. *See Ephesians* 6:10-18

# Our Final Verse 14: The theme of TLC and 2024/2025 Memory verse:

<sup>14</sup> Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them, "Don't be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!"

#### 3. Fact on remaining FERVENT

**Do not be afraid**... because they were. Remember, in Chapter 2 – Nehemiah was afraid to go before the king as a cupbearer – but we know he moved passed his fear...so he's not saying something he hadn't experienced.

Psalms 56:3-4 says: When I afraid, I will put my trust in YOU...

When we are – we can't succumb to them! The fear is REAL but so is GOD'S PROMISE: I will always CAUSE YOU TO TRIUMPH.

Nehemiah – reminded them who their God was and their ssignment:

### **Our REBUILD expectation:**

- Our families will be healed.
- The brokenness change!
- The divide WILL end...
- The generational curses will break!

Fill in your expectations: \_\_\_\_\_

# BELIEVE FOR IT – BE A WORKMAN TOGETHER WITH GOD AND FIGHT FOR IT!