**Let’s Rebuild 4 – Nehemiah 4 Leader Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. What’s the #1 interruption at your work? How do you deal with interruptions?**

**2. What’s a project you’ve started but haven’t finished yet?**

**LOOK at the BOOK**

**3. Read Neh.4:6:** **At what level were the people working?** (100%. “With all their heart.”)

**Is a wall that is half-built useful?**  (No, a half built wall is useless.)

**4. What are some of the challenges Nehemiah and the people faced in building the wall?**

**4:1-3; 7,8 R\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Ridicule)**

**4:10 E\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Exhaustion -**What’s the hardest part of building a wall is? The last half!)

**4:10 D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Discouragement -** They concluded: “We can’t rebuild the wall.”)

**4:11,12 F\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Fear -** Sanballat and the Samaritans were to the north; Tobiah and the Ammonites were enemies east; Geshem and the Arabs were enemies to the south; and Ashdod was a Philistine city to the west. Jerusalem was surrounded.)

**5. What was Nehemiah’s first response to ridicule and fear?** **4:4**; **4:9**

(He turned to God and talked with God about those who were talking badly about him. He always prayed as a first response.)

**6. How do Isaiah 40:31, Nehemiah 8:10 and Zechariah 4:6 encourage us when we’re fatigued?**

**7. What defensive adjustment did Nehemiah make? 4:12,13**

 **(**The people had been separated in the rebuilding process. Each of the families had taken a section of the wall to work on. Nehemiah realized they needed to come together. It’s easy to be fearful when we’re off working by ourselves. We gain courage in teams. Prayer was a priority for Nehemiah, but it wasn’t a substitute for action. He posted a guard day and night to meet the threat. He strategically stationed people behind the lowest points of the wall. He put them in families, rather than by themselves, so they’d encourage each other).

**8. How does Nehemiah deal with discouragement and fear? 4:14,19**

**(**The people said: “We can’t…” Nehemiah said: “God will.” Nehemiah realized the people had gotten their eyes on themselves and off of God. He recast the vision of the wall, and tried to turn their focus back on God instead of the problem. God needs to become bigger and our problems will look smaller. If we fear God, we won’t fear the enemy.)

**9. What emotional driver does Nehemiah suggest as a basis for fighting our physical and spiritual battles? 4:14** (We should fight hardest for our families).

**10. How does Nehemiah’s strategy of equipping his workers with a sword and trowel give us insight for our spiritual battle today?** (We need to pray and we need to work for the Lord).

**11. What principle of defense does the trumpet represent? 4:18-20** (Don’t fight alone. Heb. 10:24,25).

**12. In what areas is Nehemiah a great example of leadership? 4:21-23** (He was a fervent prayer warrior, a hard worker, a great delegator, an encourager, a battle strategist, and had personal integrity. Nehemiah was in the trenches with the troops. He took his turn on nighttime guard duty).

**TOOK**

**Which of the four challenges that Nehemiah faced do you struggle the most with right now?** (ridicule, exhaustion, discouragement, or fear?)

**What strategy can you implement to face that challenge?**

**How do we fight our spiritual enemy? Eph. 6:10-13; 2 Cor. 10:3-5.**

**Read Phil. 4:6,7. What should we pray about?** (Everything!) **What’s God’s promise when we give all our cares and concerns to Him?** (He’ll give us peace and guard our heart and mind from fear).

**Which family member do you need to fight for (not with!) the most these days?**

**In your small group prayer time, remember to pray about 3 things:**

**1) Wisdom** – Is God calling our church to build?

**2) Unity** – Pray that the proposed building project won’t divide us, but rather unite us and serve as a base for achieving God’s purposes for us in the future.

**3) Provision** –Ask God to provide everything we need to build the project. And ask God what your part should be.