



**GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Gulf Shores, AL**

***Bible Study Series***

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# ***Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!***

Recognizing The Savior, Reviving The Servants, Rebuilding The Stones,  
& Removing The Shame

## *Introduction*

*Building Block #1 = Praying*

*Building Block #2 = Preparing*

*Building Block #3 = Organizing*

*Building Block #4 = Giving*

*Building Block #5 = Living*

*Building Block #6 = Reflecting*

*Building Block #7 = Leading*

*Building Block #8 = Teaching*

*Building Block #9 = Worshipping*

*Building Block #10 = Communicating*

*Building Block #11 = Serving*

*Building Block #12 = Rejoicing*

*Building Block #13 = Growing*

***Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!***  
***Recognizing The Savior, Reviving The Servants, Rebuilding The Stones,  
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*“For we were slaves. Yet our God did not forsake us in our bondage; but He extended mercy to us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us, to repair the house of our God, to rebuild its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah and Jerusalem.” (Ezra 9:9)*

***Introduction to the Book of Nehemiah***

Introduction: Nehemiah is one of the most amazing and unique characters of the Old Testament. He accepted the task of building the wall around Jerusalem (**Jeremiah 5:1, Ezekiel 22:30**). In this lesson, I want us to notice why life must be studied . . . .

Discussion:

***I. Nehemiah The Cupbearer to the King***  
**Nehemiah 1:11**

***II. Nehemiah The Contractor for the People***  
**Nehemiah 2:8, 3:3, 6, 13-15**

***III. Nehemiah The Community Leader***  
**Nehemiah 5:15, 7:65, 70; 8:9; 10:1**

***IV. Nehemiah The Christian Example***  
**Nehemiah 6:3**

Conclusion: When God needed a man, Nehemiah stepped forward. Will you answer God’s call to build the wall? Over the next few weeks we are going to study Nehemiah and see the spiritual building blocks he used to build up the kingdom of God. And we are going to learn how to effectively build up God’s kingdom. Let’s pray for God’s wisdom and guidance as we serve Him!

WORD OF THE DAY = “**Build**”

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #1 = “Praying”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 1*

Introduction: Nehemiah is one of the most amazing characters of the Old Testament. He accepted the task of building the wall around Jerusalem (**Jeremiah 5:1, Ezekiel 22:30**). Through the next few weeks we are going to take a journey through the book that bears his name. On this journey we will learn the building blocks necessary for spiritual growth. Each step moves us toward spiritual maturity. The first building block is supplication . . . .

Discussion:

- I. He Prayed Fervently (Nehemiah 1:4)*
- II. He Prayed Reverently (Nehemiah 1:5)*
- III. He Prayed Humbly (Nehemiah 1:6 )*
- IV. He Prayed Continually (Nehemiah 1:6)*
- V. He Prayed Wisely (Nehemiah 1:8-9)*
- VI. He Prayed Confidently (Nehemiah 1:11)*
- VII. He Prayed Specifically (Nehemiah 1:11)*
- VIII. He Prayed Watchfully (Nehemiah 1:11; 2:1-4)*
- IX. He Prayed Quickly (Nehemiah 2:4)*
- X. He Prayed Effectively (Nehemiah 2:1-10)*

Conclusion: When God needed a man, Nehemiah stepped forward. Will you answer God’s call to build the wall? Do you have this building block that is necessary for spiritual growth and building up the kingdom of God? Let’s pray for God’s wisdom and guidance as we serve Him!

WORD OF THE DAY = “**Pray**”

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #2 = “Preparing”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 2*

Introduction: Nehemiah is one of the most amazing characters of the Old Testament. He accepted the task of building the wall around Jerusalem (**Jeremiah 5:1, Ezekiel 22:30**). Through the next few weeks we are going to take a journey through the book that bears his name. On this journey we will learn the building blocks that are necessary for spiritual growth. Each one will move us toward spiritual maturity. The second building block deals with planning. . . .

Discussion:

#### *I. Petitioning the Ruler*

**Nehemiah 1:4-11, Nehemiah 2:1-3**

#### *II. Probing the Ruins*

**Nehemiah 2:10, Nehemiah 2:12, 16**

#### *III. Persuading The Residents*

**Nehemiah 2:17, Nehemiah 1:3, Nehemiah 2:18, 20**

Conclusion: Had Nehemiah not made the necessary preparation, the work would have stopped shortly after it started. Had he not probed the ruins of Jerusalem and persuaded the people to help him with this task his work would have still been more difficult and, maybe even, unsuccessful. If one, any, or all of these things were not done exactly the way Nehemiah did them Sanballet, Tobiah, and Geshem would have really had something at which to laugh (**Luke 14:28-30**). This chapter really sets the tone for the rest of the book because Nehemiah will not change or alter his method or work ethic: pray to God, consult with the leaders, evaluate the work, and involve the people. This proves to be successful for him and, likewise, it can be successful today in the church.

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Prepare”**

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #3 = “Organizing”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 3*

Introduction: Remember that the church is pictured as a body (**Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4**), as a bride (**Ephesians 5:23-33**), and as an army (**Ephesians 6:10-17**). This chapter may look like a long list of names, but I promise you that it is much more. I believe that God included this chapter because He wanted to teach us a lesson about coordination. As we study this chapter together, you will see that Nehemiah carefully coordinated the workers that he had so that they could best aid and complement one another. . . .

Discussion:

*I. They were coordinated based on their ability*

**Nehemiah 3:4-5, 7,-12, 15-19, 21-32**

**Matthew 25:14-30**

**Ecclesiastes 10:7**

**John 15:1-8**

*II. They were coordinated based on their activity*

**Nehemiah 3:20**

**Ecclesiastes 9:10**

*III. They were coordinated based on their address*

**Nehemiah 3:10**

**Nehemiah 3:17**

**Nehemiah 3:23**

**Luke 24:45-49**

Conclusion: If we are going to build the Lord's church, we must take the building block that Nehemiah has given us and put it in its place. We need to build up the church for ourselves, for our children, for all the members of the Lord's church, but essentially it is for God's glory. These things will assure us that there will be hope for the church in the future.

WORD OF THE DAY = “**Organize**”

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #4 = “Giving”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 4*

Introduction: As the fourth chapter will reveal, Nehemiah knew a little something about dedication and giving to the work of the Lord. The people had prayed, they were prepared, they were organized, and now it's time to get to work. You will find that Nehemiah and the people put everything they had into the work. . . . .

Discussion:

#### ***I. The People Gave Their Heads***

**Nehemiah 4:1-12**

**Nehemiah 4:6**

#### ***II. The People Gave Their Hearts***

**Nehemiah 4:1-6**

**Nehemiah 4:7-12**

**Nehemiah 4:20**

#### ***III. The People Gave Their Hands***

**Nehemiah 4:15**

**Nehemiah 4:17**

**Ezra 6:22**

**Ecclesiastes 9:10**

**Colossians 3:23**

#### ***IV. The People Gave Their Hours***

**Nehemiah 4:21**

**Ephesians 5:16**

**Colossians 4:5**

**John 9:4**

Conclusion: This building block was an essential part of their success and it's vital to our building up the Lord's work. After all, weak minds, lukewarm hearts, idle hands, and wasted hours cannot build the Lord's work. Can the Lord count on you?

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Give”**

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #5 = “Living”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 5*

Introduction: We can know the truth, and we can speak the truth, but all of that is useless unless we live the truth. If the Israelites did not speak the truth, and live the truth, they could not convert others to the truth. Nehemiah understood the importance of godly living. This was no time for hypocrisy. In this chapter, he outlines three motives for keeping your life clean.

Discussion:

***I. Godly Living Stops Reproach***

**Nehemiah 5:2-5, Nehemiah 5:10-11, Nehemiah 5:12-13,  
I Peter 4:14-16, I Timothy 5:14, Proverbs 14:31, 17:5**

***II. Godly Living Shows Reverence***

**Nehemiah 5:14, Nehemiah 5:17-18, Romans 3:9-18,  
Psalm 36:1, II Corinthians 7:1, Proverbs 3:7, 8:13, 16:6**

***III. Godly Living Secures A Reward***

**Nehemiah 5:19, Nehemiah 13:22, Revelation 2:10  
Proverbs 12:2, II Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 20:12  
John 5:28-29**

Conclusion: As you can see, godly living is another very important building block for growth. Without it, the wall will come down as fast as it goes up. When Christ is the cornerstone, and our godly living as His great example, holds up the other side, the possibilities are limitless. As godly men and women put a brick on the wall, ungodly men and women will take a stone off of the wall. Long-term building depends upon godly living. Is your life building up the work or tearing it down?

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Live”**



## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #6 = “Reflecting”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 6*

Introduction: In **I Thessalonians 5:21**, Paul encouraged Christians to carefully scrutinize everything that they accepted. He knew that if they were not careful, they would accept one of Satan's counterfeits, and the work would suffer or stop. In like manner, Nehemiah knew the importance of carefully examining things before accepting them. He reflected on God's will, and after examining the options, he rejected these tactics of Satan. . . . .

Discussion:

***I. Invitation Did Not Stimulate Nehemiah***

**Nehemiah 6:1-4**

**I Corinthians 15:33**

**II John 9-11**

***II. Intimidation Did Not Stir Nehemiah***

**Nehemiah 6:5-14**

**Jude 3**

**Matthew 5:14-16**

***III. Infiltration Did Not Shock Nehemiah***

**Nehemiah 6:15-19**

**Nehemiah 5:7-8**

**I John 4:1**

***IV. Image Did Not Shake Nehemiah***

**Nehemiah 6:8-19**

**Galatians 2:4-5**

**Jude 4**

Conclusion: When we are reflecting on the task God has given us we will not be moved. Satan is using every trick that he knows to stop the work that we are doing (**Ephesians 6:11, II Corinthians 2:11**). He knows that of all the building blocks that Nehemiah has handed us, this is the one shows the most determination. As the prince of darkness, he hates the light of examination and reflection. Are you ready to carefully examine the truth?

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Reflect”**

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #7= “Leading”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 7*

Introduction: The Greek word *Ekklesia*, is used to describe and identify those individuals who have been called out of the world (**II Thessalonians 2:14**). To the Corinthians, a worldly group, Paul told said to separate themselves from the world (**II Corinthians 6:17-18**). Clearly, Paul knew that in order for the church to prosper, the church had to come out of the world. In like manner, Nehemiah understood that if the walls of Jerusalem were going to stay up, the people had to remain separate from their pagan neighbors. After all, this is what brought the walls down in the first place (**Deuteronomy 28:15, 49-52, Nehemiah 1:7-10**). Their commitment to remain faithful is seen in their leadership. . . . .

Discussion:

#### ***I. They Selected Their Leaders***

**Nehemiah 7:2, Nehemiah 6:17-19, I Timothy 3, Titus 1**

#### ***II. They Stationed Their Lookouts***

**Nehemiah 6:1-9, Nehemiah 3:23-30, John 3:19-21, II John 9-11, Galatians 2:4-5, Jude 3-4, Ephesians 5:11**

#### ***III. They Searched Their Lineages***

**Nehemiah 7:5, Nehemiah 7:64-65, Matthew 14:4, Matthew 19:9, John 3:5, Acts 2:38, Acts 11:26, Acts 17:11, Acts 22:16, Ephesians 5:17**

Conclusion: We see Nehemiah and the people's commitment to be separate from the world in the leaders that they selected, the lookouts that they stationed, and the lineages that they searched. If we are going to be successful, we must make this same commitment. After all, we cannot be friends with the world without being enemies of God (**James 4:4**). If the foundation that has built upon the rock of Christ Jesus is going to stand, we need good leaders that will keep watch on the walls! Are you up to the task?

WORD OF THE DAY = “Lead”

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #8= “Teaching”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 8*

Introduction: As you know, a good education is essential to success in the world today. After all, we can't build a first rate world with a second rate education. In like manner, spiritually speaking, we can't build the first rate congregation that Jesus wants with a second rate education. Our spiritual education system, in most congregations, is failing to give children and adults the basic education that they need to survive. No doubt, Nehemiah understood the importance of a good education. As soon as the gates were in place, he called for Ezra to come and teach the people. In the context powerful things are about to happen . . . . .

Discussion:

*I. The Scriptures Were Expounded*

**Nehemiah 8:1, Psalm 119:133, Psalm 119:154, John 8:32,  
John 12:48, Acts 20:32, II Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:21,  
Matthew 15:9, II John 9-11**

*II. The Teacher Was Exemplary*

**Ezra 7:10, Nehemiah 8:6, 7-8, 12, Ephesians 5:17**

*IV. The People Were Exhorted*

**Nehemiah 8:2-3, Nehemiah 8:5-7, Nehemiah 8:13-17,  
Nehemiah 8:18**

Conclusion: In order for learning to take place in the Lord's church, we must open the word of God, find a good teacher, and pray that the people are receptive. Our facilities are much better than those afforded to Ezra, our teachers are probably more educated and more experienced, but our listening skills may not be as good. Many have crossed the tracks and have grown indifferent to the gospel. As Christians, we must listen to the architect. Otherwise, we will be building on the sand (**Matthew 7:24-27**). Teaching is a crucial building block in the wall of growth. Without it, we cannot build up the Lord's church or keep it strong. We must not let the Bible school go the way of the secular school. If we do, our children will be unprepared for the future, and more importantly, for heaven. Are you ready to learn? Are you ready to teach?

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Teach”**

## ***Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!***

### **BUILDING BLOCK #9= “Worshipping”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 9*

Introduction: We may never appear before royalty or dignitaries, but we have been selected to appear before the Ruler of the universe and praise His name. What a humbling honor this is for us! In our last lesson, we left off with the people reading the Law. The people immediately recognized their own unrighteousness. They gathered before the Lord with fasting, sackcloth and ashes, confessing their sins and worshipping (**Nehemiah 9:1-5**). In the context, Nehemiah reveals a number of reasons why they worshipped God. . . . .

Discussion:

- I. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Position (Nehemiah 9:1-6)***
- II. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Promises (Nehemiah 9:8, 15, 23)***
- III. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Pity (Nehemiah 9:9)***
- IV. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Power (Nehemiah 9:9-11, 32)***
- V. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Provision (Nehemiah 9:12-15, 21, 25)***
- VI. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Pardon (Nehemiah 9:17, 28)***
- VII. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Patience (Nehemiah 9:30-31)***
- VIII. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Purposes (Nehemiah 9:32, 26)***
- IX. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His Purity (Nehemiah 9:33-35)***
- X. God Should Be Worshipped Because of His People (Nehemiah 9:36-38)***

Conclusion: We see Nehemiah and the people's commitment to be separate from the world in the leaders that they selected, the lookouts that they stationed, and the lineages that they searched. If we are going to be successful, we must make this same commitment. After all, we cannot be friends with the world without being enemies of God (**James 4:4**). If the foundation that has built upon the rock of Christ Jesus is going to stand, we need good leaders that will keep watch on the walls! Are you up to the task?

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Worship”**

*Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

**BUILDING BLOCK #10= “Communicating”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 10*

Introduction: The number one cause for divorce in America is lack of communication. It is also a major problem in the church. Marriages, institutions, relationships, businesses, etc. depend upon good communication. Nehemiah understood that in the work of the Lord giving and sharing was valuable. In the tenth chapter of the book that bears his name, we find the people communicating to God and to Nehemiah how important the work of the Lord was to them. Let's take a closer look at each of these things. . . . .

Discussion:

*I. They Communicated By Their Signatures*

**Nehemiah 10:1-28**

*II. They Communicated By Their Statements*

**Nehemiah 10:29-30**

*III. They Communicated By Their Schedule*

**Nehemiah 10:31**

*IV. They Communicated By Their Sacrifice*

**Nehemiah 10:32-39**

Conclusion: Would your name be on a list for those who want to be dedicated to communicating the gospel? Do you constantly speak good things about the Lord's work? Are you spending every minute serving the Lord? Have you lived a life of sacrifice? The calling of God is more than just lip service. . . . it's a commitment that will last a lifetime!

WORD OF THE DAY = “Communicate”

***Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!***

**BUILDING BLOCK #11= “Serving”**

*TEXT: Nehemiah 11*

Introduction: The work of the Lord often suffers because of a lack of participation and involvement. However, this isn't a new problem for the Lord's people. One reason this is such an issue is because people would rather be served, than to serve. This is the exact opposite of Jesus (**Mark 10:45**). What is your talent? Are you using it to the glory of the Lord? As we examine this chapter, we will see God's people filling four different volunteer roles that affected the entire congregation of people. . . . .

Discussion:

- I. Servants of God Are Warriors***  
**Nehemiah 11:6, 14, 17-18, 20-22**
- II. Servants of God Are Watchers***  
**Nehemiah 11:9, 14, 19**
- III. Servants of God Are Workers***  
**Nehemiah 11:12, 16, 22**
- IV. Servants of God Are Worshippers***  
**Nehemiah 11:11, 22**

Conclusion: The work of the Lord cannot be successful without participation, involvement, and Christian service. Will you be a servant of God? God is counting on you. We should not let Him down! The church is counting on you. We should not let each other down! We need to be wholeheartedly committed to the service of God.

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Serve”**

***Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!***

**BUILDING BLOCK #12 = “Rejoicing”**

*TEXT: Nehemiah 12*

Introduction: When God made us in His own image, He made with the ability and desire to laugh (**Genesis 1:26-27, Philippians 4:4**). In fact, when sin robbed man of much of the joy that God had planned for man, He sent His only begotten Son into the world that man's joy might be full again (**John 15:11, 16:24**). Having created the heart, God knows the blessings that flow from a merry heart. Nehemiah shows us how their rejoicing helped to build up God’s kingdom. . . . .

Discussion:

***I. They Rejoiced In Their Service***

**Nehemiah 12:1-26, Proverbs 15:13-15, Ecclesiastes 9:7**

***II. They Rejoiced In Their Singing***

**Nehemiah 12:27-31, Nehemiah 4:3, Ephesians 5:19,  
Colossians 3:16**

***III. They Rejoiced In Their Sacrifice***

**Nehemiah 12:44-47, I Corinthians 16:1-2,  
II Corinthians 9:6-7**

Conclusion: It is hard to get positive results from negative attitudes. We need more joy in the kingdom of God today!!! Remember that attitude does often determine altitude! The work in many places is not getting off the ground because members are contemplating their burdens rather than counting their blessings. Without joyful spirits, we cannot hope to be very successful. After all, would you want to be a member of a body of people who look as if they wished they were somewhere else? Each of us must examine ourselves to see whether or not we are increasing or decreasing the joy of the congregation (**II Corinthians 13:5**). A good place for us to begin is with our service, our singing, and our sacrifices.

**WORD OF THE DAY = “Joy”**

## *Nehemiah: Answering the Call of God!!!*

### **BUILDING BLOCK #13= “Growing”**

TEXT: *Nehemiah 13*

Introduction: We may have met those who are mean-spirited and crude in their confrontation of error, but we must not allow them to drive us to a non-confrontational attitude. After all, we are soldiers in the Lord's army (**Ephesians 6:10-17**). It is the responsibility of the soldier to confront wrong, war a good warfare (**I Timothy 1:18-19**), contend earnestly for the faith (**Jude 3**), and fight the good fight of faith (**I Timothy 6:12**). No doubt, Nehemiah knew the need for confrontation and growth. He knew that if the error was not confronted it would break down the walls of truth. Nehemiah had to confront the enemy and error, which included those who were supposed to be on his side. In this final chapter, we see Nehemiah confronting his brethren to inspire more growth. . . .

Discussion:

- I. They Still Needed To Grow In The Area of Worship*  
**Nehemiah 13:1-5, 10**
- II. They Still Needed To Grow In The Area of Leadership*  
**Nehemiah 13:8-9, 11-14**
- III. They Still Needed To Grow In The Area of Fellowship*  
**Nehemiah 13:15-18, 20-22**
- IV. They Still Needed To Grow In The Area of Relationships*  
**Nehemiah 13:23-31**

Conclusion: Many things have changed since the time of Nehemiah, but some things have remained the same. We are still battling some of the same problems that plagued the Lord's work in Nehemiah's day. We should not be afraid of those problems! We need to stand up! And we should also learn that no matter how much we do, or how far we go, we still have room to grow. There is always room for improvement. Are you willing to grow? God has some great plans for you!!!

WORD OF THE DAY = “**Grow**”