

Life Group Notes for Sunday 19 Sept 2021
Collaboration and Perspiration
Nehemiah 3:1-5

Introduction

To get a sense of the diversity represented in Nehemiah 3, Skim through the whole of the chapter. How many different professions and geographical backgrounds can you count? How many individual names are mentioned? (You may want to get some people to look for names, some for professions and some for geography!)

Discussion

Read Nehemiah 3:5

The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors.

What factors might have contributed to their refusal to work?

What discourages you from spiritual “wall building”?

As we saw in the opening exercise, the wall builders were a very diverse lot! We are also very diverse at SBC. What factors might pull us apart?

What draws us together? You may want to reflect on Galatians 3:28:

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.

Everyone, apart from the nobles of Tekoa, did what they could to rebuild the walls. Some repaired just in front of their houses,

others did 450 metres. The men of Tekoa built two separate sections.

What factors influence how much or how little we can contribute to rebuilding the spiritual walls at SBC?

Personal reflection

Suggest some time for personal reflection using the questions below:

1. Are you already very busy and perhaps feeling a little discouraged? May God affirm you and bless you in what you are already bringing as you reflect on this verse:

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

2. Is there is something you need to stop doing, because that is no longer what God wants from you and you need to take some time to realign yourself with God's plans for you?
3. Is God is challenging you to do take up a new responsibility, however small? What will be your next step?

Invite people to share if they want to.

Conclusion

Take some time to pray over the life of the church, giving thanks for specific individuals and ministries in the past and then interceding for the future of the church, especially asking God for new paid staff and volunteers.

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few (Matthew 9:37)