

READ: (Nehemiah 5:1-15) - **'TENSIONS ON THE BUILD'**

Chapter 4 ended on a note of great victory, with Nehemiah and the people of God back committed to working on the wall having adapted to the outside source of opposition that threatened them. Chapter 5 deals with the internal divisions between the workers on the wall themselves.

It is sad, but true, that the church of Jesus Christ has often been marked more by factions than by fellowship.

- Q.** HAVE you ever been at loggerheads with someone and HOW did it make you feel?
- Q.** WHY do you think it is that Christians sometimes fall out and HOW do you think God feels about it? (See Vs. 9 & 1 Corinthians 1:10)
- Q.** IS there a difference between disagreeing with a person and being disagreeable towards them?

(Vs.1-6)

- Q.** WHAT made Nehemiah so angry about what he was Hearing and WHY do you think that was?
- Q.** IS there anything that ought to make us angry about the things we hear and see around and about us?

Nehemiah didn't act on impulse but carefully considered What the best plan of action was.

(Vs.7-11)

- Q.** WHAT challenges are associated with speaking out against something taking place that we know is wrong?

Q. HOW does living in the fear of the Lord assist us in our decision making, and in our business dealings?

Q. WHAT can we do to guard ourselves against using people, and HOW might we practically make up for taking advantage of someone?

(Vs.12-13)

Q. HOW does God's work of restoration in our lives work?

Q. HOW does honouring our promises bring praise to the Lord and cause others to praise the Lord in turn?

(Vs.14-19)

Q. HOW did Nehemiah seek to re-establish servant leadership as he governed, and why is that type of leadership so impactful?

Q. WHY is it considered a good thing when you do something for someone else, and HOW is that pleasing to God?

Q. WHAT are some practical examples of how we can better display servant leadership at home, at work, and just in general?

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