

# Encouraging Words from Nehemiah

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## Nehemiah 4:1-2

When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, "What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble-burned as they are?"

## Nehemiah 4:3

Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, "What they are building-if even a fox climbed up on it, he would break down their wall of stones!"

## Nehemiah 4:6

So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.

“There is nothing as insignificant as a half time score!”

## Nehemiah 4:7-9

But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

## Nehemiah 4:10-12

Meanwhile, the people in Judah said,

- "The strength of the laborers is giving out" \_\_\_\_\_
- and there is so much rubble \_\_\_\_\_
- "that we cannot rebuild the wall." \_\_\_\_\_
- Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work." 12 Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us." \_\_\_\_\_

It's half time...so what are our options?

- a. Stop at ½ the project and live with it.
- b. Too dangerous and risky: RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!
- c. Get some God perspective and finish the calling!

## Nehemiah 4:13

Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.

## Nehemiah 4:14

After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

Winning the second half...

- d. Realistically understanding the situation at hand
- e. Totally relying on God for what only HE can do
- f. Wholeheartedly doing what God has asked
- g. Clearly focusing on the grander eternal vision

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- If you have kids, we invite you to check out our Children's Ministry Programs. Information is available at the Children's Check-In Table down the hallway from the Lobby.
- Please stop by Guest Central at the back of the Worship Center after the service as we have a gift for you. If you need more information about what's happening at Journey, the Guest Central staff will be delighted to assist you.