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"With the help of our God"

So neither I nor my brothers nor my servants nor the men of the guard who followed me, none of us took off our clothes; each kept his weapon at his right hand.

NEHEMIAH 4:23 ESV



You will not comprehend the love of God in Christ in isolation from "the saints." This is not something that happens to us on our own in our bedrooms, or on a silent retreat. The love of Christ is discovered corporately. If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a church family to recognize how loved we are. It takes the entire family of God—the family that we've met and those that we haven't met, those that have gone before us and those that will come after us—to be able actually to get an inkling of the nature of God's love.

—— Alistair Begg

LOVING GOD AND LOVING ALL PEOPLE in our parking



Nehemiah 5...the "how" is God's and it matters...

Now there arose a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. 2 For there were those who said, "With our sons and our daughters, we are many. So let us get grain, that we may eat and keep alive." 3 There were also those who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards, and our houses to get

NEHEMIAH 5:1-5 ESV

grain because of the famine." 4 And there were those who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tax on our fields and our vineyards. 5 Now our flesh is as the flesh of our brothers, our children are as their children. Yet we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our

NEHEMIAH 5:1-5 ESV

daughters have already been enslaved, but it is not in our power to help it, for other men have our fields and our vineyards."

NEHEMIAH 5:1-5 ESV

With the help of our God:

 We will live right <u>vertically</u> and <u>horizontally</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:1-9

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5:8 ESV NEXT STEPS IN YOUR JOURNEY

Faith at Work

During this week's message, we discussed how every workplace (or school if you are a student) has strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. In Nehemiah 5, Nehemiah clearly recognized that employers in his community were exploiting workers. There were glaring weaknesses that had to be called out and worked on.

Take the time this week to do what is known as a "SWOT" analysis on your place of work or school. What can you build on, work on, or do to make it a better place for our community?

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS
OPPORTUNITY	THREATS

Catch up on this week's Sunday sermon



I was very angry when I heard their outcry and these words. 7 I took counsel with myself, and I brought charges against the nobles and the officials. I said to them, "You are exacting interest, each from his brother." And I held a great assembly against them 8 and said to them, "We, as far as we are able, have bought back our Jewish brothers who

NEHEMIAH 5:6-9 ESV

have been sold to the nations, but you even sell your brothers that they may be sold to us!" They were silent and could not find a word to say. 9 So I said, "The thing that you are doing is not good. Ought you not to walk in the fear of our God to prevent the taunts of the nations our enemies?

NEHEMIAH 5:6-9 ESV

"Moreover, I and my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Let us abandon this exacting of interest. 11 Return to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive orchards, and their houses, and the percentage of money, grain, wine, and oil that you have been exacting from them." 12 Then they said, "We will

restore these and require nothing from them. We will do as you say." And I called the priests and made them swear to do as they had promised. 13 I also shook out the fold of my garment and said, "So may God shake out every man from his house and from his labor who does not keep this promise. So may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the

assembly said "Amen" and praised the Lord. And the people did as they had promised. 14 Moreover, from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, neither I nor my brothers ate the food allowance of the governor.

15 The former governors who were before me laid heavy burdens on the people and took from them for their daily ration forty shekels of silver. Even their servants lorded it over the people. But I did not do so, because of the fear of God. 16 I also persevered in the work on this wall, and we acquired no land, and all my servants were

gathered there for the work. 17 Moreover, there were at my table 150 men, Jews and officials, besides those who came to us from the nations that were around us. 18 Now what was prepared at my expense for each day was one ox and six choice sheep and birds, and every ten days all kinds of wine in

abundance. Yet for all this I did not demand the food allowance of the governor, because the service was too heavy on this people.

With the help of our God:

 We will live right <u>vertically</u> and <u>horizontally</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:1-9

We will live <u>generously</u> with our <u>resources</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:10-18

- God is first.
- God gives us His first and finest.
- We respond by giving our first and finest.



Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

— John Wesley

Are you a river or a reservoir with God's resources?

Now when Sanballat and Tobiah and Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies heard that I had built the wall and that there was no breach left in it (although up to that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), 2 Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come and let us meet together at Hakkephirim in the plain of Ono." But they

intended to do me harm. 3 And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" 4 And they sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. 5 In the same way Sanballat for the fifth time sent his servant to me with an open

letter in his hand. 6 In it was written, "It is reported among the nations, and Geshem also says it, that you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall. And according to these reports you wish to become their king. 7 And you have also set up prophets to proclaim concerning you in Jerusalem, 'There is a king in

Judah.' And now the king will hear of these reports. So now come and let us take counsel together." 8 Then I sent to him, saying, "No such things as you say have been done, for you are inventing them out of your own mind." 9 For they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done." But now, O God, strengthen my hands.

With the help of our God:

 We will live right <u>vertically</u> and <u>horizontally</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:1-9

We will live <u>generously</u> with our <u>resources</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:10-18

• We will live <u>focused</u> on doing His will and work.

NEHEMIAH 6:1-9

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

PSALM 90:17 ESV

i pray for family restoration & Dear lord, I come to you do pray that you can rebuild my family and head the hurt and brokenness we have experienced. Lord, help us disern the enemy's attempt to divide us so that we can rise above our experences and see one another as you do. Allowing any arguments or conflicts that creep into our relationships to be eliminated, may we experience unity, love and joy in the future. in the name of jesus, Amen & of father, thank you that this day is a gift from you, and im not going to live Sour and defeated. Thank you that my happiness is not dependent on my Situation, but upon your presence in. my life, ive made up my mind that I'm going to rejoice in you and be glad, in jesus name, Amen.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

COLOSSIANS
3:17 ESV

Now when I went into the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah, son of Mehetabel, who was confined to his home, he said, "Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple. Let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you. They are coming to kill you by night." 11 But I said, "Should such a man as I run

NEHEMIAH 6:10-16 ESV

away? And what man such as I could go into the temple and live? I will not go in." 12 And I understood and saw that God had not sent him, but he had pronounced the prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. 13 For this purpose he was hired, that I should be afraid and act in this way and sin, and so they could

NEHEMIAH 6:10-16 ESV

give me a bad name in order to taunt me. 14 Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid. 15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. 16 And when all our

NEHEMIAH 6:10-16 ESV

enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

NEHEMIAH 6:10-16 ESV

With the help of our God:

 We will live right <u>vertically</u> and <u>horizontally</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:1-9

We will live <u>generously</u> with our <u>resources</u>.

NEHEMIAH 5:10-18

• We will live <u>focused</u> on doing His will and work.

NEHEMIAH 6:1-9

• We will live a Holy life <u>fearing God</u> more than <u>man</u>.

NEHEMIAH 6:10-16

Which is greater in your life? Fear of God or fear of man?

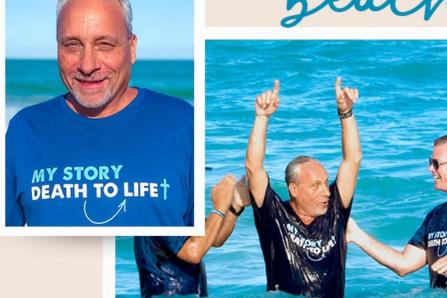
"So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. 27 What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. 28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

MATTHEW 10:26-30 ESV

29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.
30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered."

MATTHEW 10:26-30 ESV



















We must submit our lives to Jesus Christ, let him change our hearts and character, become servants, and model a life of humility and sacrifice. Then our spiritual density will make us magnetic. The more Christ reigns in our lives, the more people will be drawn to Jesus in us. It must be more than a coincidence that the word glory literally means "density.

—— Erwin Mcmanus

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

PSALM 51:10-12 ESV

NEXT STEP QUESTIONS

Will you submit your life to Jesus' Lordship in all of life?

2) Will you come clean to be made clean today?

3 Will you walk in the love of God and the fear of the Lord?

