

APPLICATION GUIDE

Use the questions below for personal reflection or discussion with your family or friends as we seek to not only hear the Word but believe it and live accordingly.

1. When does the work God has called you to do feel like important work? When does it feel unimportant? Does the work you do often give you the satisfaction of seeing a task completed?
2. Read **Nehemiah 6:1-9**. How did Nehemiah respond to the distractions to the important work he was doing? Nehemiah prayed that God would strengthen his hands for the work that needed to get done (see v.9). How often do you pray for God to strengthen you to do the work He has called you to do? In what specific ways should you pause to pray and ask Him to strengthen you right now?
3. In **Nehemiah 6:10-14**, there is an attempt to deceive Nehemiah in a way that would lead him to fear and then to sin. In what ways do you see the progression in your own life of lies leading to fear leading to sin? In what ways has fear crippled you and caused you to fail to obey God? Rejecting the lies and choosing instead to trust God's truth and act in obedience requires the help of the Holy Spirit in discernment and knowing God's Word. Ask God for help in being discerning and commit to being a faithful student of God's Word so that you can know what's true.
4. In **Nehemiah 7**, we see the focus of the book shift from the work of rebuilding the wall (**Nehemiah 6:15**) to the work of renewing the people. In the chapters that follow. Read ahead in **Nehemiah 8** and take note of how God is at work through His Word.
5. Why was Jesus' reaction to Peter in **Matthew 16:21-23** so strong? Why does that matter for us?



December 6, 2020

Press On in Doing Important Work

Nehemiah 6-7

NEHEMIAH

COMING BACK AND BUILDING UP

*What kind of work has God called you to do?
Does it seem important to others?
Does it seem important to you?*

In Nehemiah 6-7, despite distractions and deceptions, an important milestone in the work God has given Nehemiah to do is accomplished. But there is more important work yet to be done.

*Are you growing weary of the work God has called you to do during this season?
Ask God for strength to press on as we continue to do all kinds of important work for the good of others and the glory of God.*

SERMON NOTES

Big Idea:
When God makes it clear that there is important work yet to be done, ask God for strength to press on and don't be distracted or deceived.

Introduction

What kind of important work has God given you to do?

So Far in Nehemiah...

Not Distracted

Nehemiah 6:1-9

Application: Pray. Ask God for Strength to Keep Working.

SERMON NOTES

Not Deceived
Nehemiah 6:10-19

Application: Deceptions that Lead to Fear and Sin and What to Do About It

Not Done
Nehemiah 7:1-73

Gospel Application: The Work Jesus Came to Do
Jesus Came to Die and He Would Not be Distracted or Deceived.
Matthew 16:21-23

Read and Pray Ahead
Nehemiah 8