

# *Nehemiah - A Builders Heart!*

*Lots of directions to go here, my friends!*

## **Those who build walls (in a good way):**

Walls are necessary to protect and regulate a city so it can prosper. Nehemiah was tasked with rebuilding the city walls and gates. But first, it was God's plan to refocus the people on rebuilding the temple - because God Himself was the heart of the nation of Israel. Then the rigorous work of building the walls could begin. Without God-focus the people never would have completed the walls.

- the Word of God/hearing God's Voice builds our heart
- being with God's people builds our heart
- talking with God/being honest and transparent builds our heart
- sharing true love and good news builds our heart

## **Those who build walls (in a bad way)**

- personal selfishness
- personal obsessions that cause us to discount others
- gossip and discord about others
- "me first" actions
- those who cannot control the tongue

## **What makes a person a "God-builder?!"**

Romans 14:19

What are the things you have seen that build up other people?

What does peace have to do with building up others?

Ephesians 4:12-16

What is it that you bring that helps others to be built up (your gifts or perspectives)?

What does it look like when you feel you are in harmony with God?

**Three prophets encouraged the returning builders:** Haggai - Zechariah - Malachi/here are a few highlight passages.

Haggai: 1:7-9 What was the spiritual problem for the returning people?

Zechariah 6:12-13; 9:9 In what way is this talking about Jesus?

Malachi 4:1-6 What do we learn about the future from these last words before the 400 year of silence?

## **Building Principles from Nehemiah:**

A caring and identifying heart (1:3-5)

A willingness to repent (1:6-7)

A willingness to engage (2:4)

A heart to overcome (4:1-6)

And to ready follow-through (4:16-17)

<b>NEHEMIAH</b>		<b>Renew/Rebuild</b>
<b>Nehemiah Arrives</b> 2:11,12	<b>Walls Restored</b> 6:15,16	<b>People Revived</b> 8:3,17,18
1-2	3-6	7-13

"I also applied myself to the work on this wall." 5:16