

Oxford Baptist Church~ September 27/15

Pastor Robin Pifer

Nehemiah Series: Building to Transform

Nehemiah 3 – “Every Member is a Minister.”

“Everyone is needed on the Wall!”

Wall Building, Gate Restoration, People transforming.

1. God’s People are Ministers.

- Restoring - 1Peter 2:5, 9
- Reconciling – 2Cor 5:16-21
- Repairing – 35 times
- To make strong, restore, strengthen
- Rebuilding or living in the Rubble?

“Some are constructionists, helping to get the job done. Some are obstructionists, getting in the way of those who are trying to get the job done. Some are destructionists, and they’re tearing things down’ - which are you? - Warren Wiersbe

2. God’s People are Team Players .(v. 1, 8, 9, 22)

- Team Leader
Jesus sends the Twelve and the 72 (Luke 9; 10)
- Nobles of Tekoa (v. 5)
- Team Effort (v.12)
- Best Effort (v.20)
- Multiplied Effort (v. 13)

“Hard work spot lights the character of people. Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses and some don’t turn up at all”.

Sam Ewing

1Cor 12:12, 14, 24b, 26, 27, Eph 4:16 (NLT)

3. God’s people are great Neighbours!

- @ Home (v.10, 23, 30) Mission starts at home and moves out. We all have a part to play where God has planted us.
- Diversity – 40 Different groups
- 28 times - “And next to them”, “Next to him”, “After him”
- Distinct Responsibilities (v.20).
- Dedication to Grace – Blessing and Serving Others.
- Gal 6:10;

Questions for Personal and Life Group Studies

1. Why is it so important for believers to be committed to the ministry of restoration and reconciliation?
2. What are the ways that Nehemiah uses to build the “every member is a minister” philosophy among the people in Jerusalem?
3. Why is being a team player important for effective ministry?
4. How does Nehemiah prevent “silo” ministry while promoting team ministry?
5. Ministry is really coming along side others where we live. What are two practical ways you can minister to co-workers or neighbours this week to demonstrate the love of God?
6. Why is a dedication to grace filled ministry essential for all of us to keep in mind as we serve together?
7. How can we as individuals break away from a consumer mindset in the church?
8. Rubble is both inside the church and outside in the community. Where do you see God working where you can be a contributor to rebuilding among the ruins?