

Oxford Baptist Church – Pastor Robin W. Pifer

March 5, 2017 – The Story Series

Read Chapter 21– “Rebuilding the Walls”, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Malachi

What will you be remembered for in your life?

When God’s leaders and his people walk with him there is no stopping the gracious hand of the Lord.

Ezra, Nehemiah and Malachi call God’s people to walk with the Lord.

They understood any success was from the Lord. Nehemiah 1:11, Deut 8:18

Walking with the Lord is Obeying his Word.

- Disgrace and Ruins – Nehemiah 2:17
- Grace and Rebuilding – Nehemiah 2:18 – Get Started.
- Godly Leaders always remind us what God can do through us.

Walking with the Lord and deal with Public Opposition. (Neh 4)

- Every challenge will have its opposition. Inside and Outside.
- Opposition against the People of the Lord.
- Opposition #1 – They can’t do it. The Project is too Great.
 - Answer – God will Deal with Them.
- Opposition #2 – They are not good enough. The Project won’t last.
 - Answer – We prayed and took action.
- Opposition #3 – They are weak. Threats of Violence and Trouble.
 - Answer - Do Not Fear, Remember the Lord.
 - Minister to the Poor. (Neh 5)

Walking with the Lord and deal with Personal Opposition. (Neh 6)

- Personal Attack #1 and Response. (v. 1-4)

- Personal Attack #2 and Response. (v. 5-9)
- Personal Attack #3 and Response. (v. 10-14)
- The Completion of the Wall and Celebration. (v. 15-16)
 - Opposition Continues after Victory. (v. 17-19)

How do we know that we are Walking with the Lord?

- Honour the Lord in Worship by Hearing and Obeying the Word of the Lord. (Neh 8-10; Malachi 1)
- Honour the Lord in Marriage and the Family. (Malachi 2)
- Honour the Lord with your offerings. (Malachi 3)
- Honour the Lord with your service until the Lord returns. (Malachi 3-4).



THE STORY
For Life Groups

1. Why is godly leadership so important to a nation or a local church?
2. Nehemiah takes the people from disgrace and ruins to grace and rebuilding. How does the Lord use Nehemiah’s testimony to change their attitudes and situation?
3. Discuss how walking with the Lord enables us to deal with public opposition. How does the Lord help Nehemiah and the people to deal with God’s enemies and this opposition?
4. Personal opposition is the next attack. How does Nehemiah deal with this? How does this relate to James 1:12-15; 4:7-10; Eph 6:11?
5. What personal attacks have you experienced because of your faith in Jesus Christ? Share one example with the group.
6. We can expect spiritual opposition. Read Matt 24:9; John 15:20.
7. What are five principles that come out of this message that can help you in dealing with spiritual opposition.
8. How can Eph 6: 10-20 assist us in being prepared and having victory over sin, temptation and opposition?

9. What stands out to you about Malachi's message in honouring the Lord?