

SERMON SERIES

NEHEMIAH:

Recommitting
God's People
to God's Glory



GOD'S WORK & WARFARE

NEHEMIAH 4

Message Guide | April 11, 2021

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RECOMMITTING GOD'S PEOPLE TO GOD'S GLORY

SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE | APRIL 11, 2021

God's Work and Warfare

NEHEMIAH 4

You were born in a war zone upon second birth. You were resurrected inside enemy territory. While we may not have the kind of enemies Nehemiah and the remnant faced (who wanted them literally dead) our enemies can be no less determined, and no less harmful.

What can a believer do when God wants to build His kingdom through you, but you face relentless opposition in your ministry (as we remind ourselves that all of life is ministry for a Christian)?

1. THE **REALITY** OF OPPOSITION: GOD SOMETIMES PERMITS OPPOSITION ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSES.

- While God called Nehemiah and his team to rebuild the city of God for God's purposes, Sanballat and company opposed them for selfish purposes. They felt threatened (Nehemiah 2:10) and left out (Nehemiah 2:20).
- How did their enemies attempt to stop God's work? The methods they used are just as effective today:
 1. Humiliating others (vv. 1-3)
 2. Gathering people against others (vv.6-8)
 3. Spreading rumors about others (vv. 11-12)

Which of these affects you most? The answer matters because you can then do what Nehemiah and his team did. Which of these have you been guilty of? Breathe a prayer of repentance and ask God to help you live in love, not hatred (Colossians 3:12-14).

2. THE **RESULTS** OF OPPOSITION: GOD MAY LET US FEEL DOWN SO HE CAN BUILD US UP (vv. 10-11)

- Half-way is a crisis point in anything worthwhile, as Nehemiah's team discovered (v. 6). By that time, initial enthusiasm has worn out but the end is not yet sufficiently in sight to encourage the final push. Add to this setbacks, like opposition – and you have the reason for most unfinished projects – “what might have been”.



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- Verses 10-11 reveal how badly the workers felt, and how successful the opposition was. You sometimes feel the way they did, in your own life or ministry:
 1. Fatigue – “The strength of those who bear the burdens is failing” (v. 10a)
 2. Frustration – “There is too much rubble. By ourselves we will not be able to rebuild the wall”. (v. 10b)
 3. Fear – (v. 11) our enemies said, “They will not know or see till we come among them and kill them...”

God let them experience these so that they would realize that the Lord, who is great and awesome (v. 14), frustrated the enemy's plan (v. 15), and would fight for them (v. 19). God let them taste seeming defeat so that the final victory would be sweeter (Nehemiah 6:15). God often does the same for His followers today as they carry on His work.

3. THE **RESPONSE** TO OPPOSITION: GOD SHOWS THE WAY TO HANDLE OPPOSITION VICTORIOUSLY.

- God worked in the heart of faithful Nehemiah, to teach us how to similarly thrive despite opposition. What are the God-pleasing responses to opposition?
 1. Pray (vv. 4-5)
 2. Prepare yourself and the team well (v. 9)
 3. Protect your weak points (v. 13)
 4. Preach to your team about God and what He can do (v. 14)
 5. Persist. Don't quit. Never give up till the job is done (vv. 15-23)

FINAL THOUGHTS

God's work will always encounter warfare. It comes with your birthright as one of God's own. Even if the attacks seem purely human-caused, they may have an evil supernatural aspect. Sometimes it can be mostly supernatural, and being naïve about it won't help. But “you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4). Therefore, let us be “praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18).

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Some of the principles in no. 3, “The Response to Opposition”, are also useful in running any project or ministry (with or without opposition). Which of them are, in your viewpoint?
2. Personally, between ridicule, conspiracy, or rumors, what affects you most? Why? How do you think a right view of God can help?
3. As you pray together, ask God for discernment when you need to pray against the work of the Evil one in the different circumstances of your lives. Then ask God to help you constantly trust Him all throughout.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

BDO

BDO Corporate Center
Savings Account: **000661590216**

METROBANK

Ortigas Sapphire
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CHINA BANK

Ortigas ADB
Savings Account: **1112-02006218**

BPI

Ortigas Emerald
Peso Savings Account: **9823 0217 01**

UNIONBANK

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Checking Account: **0005-9001-0426**

ROBINSONS BANK

Main Office
Savings Account: **1000-3010-0017-355**

PAYPAL

Please visit **gcf.org.ph/give**

Scan QR code below:

GCASH



PAYMAYA



Send a copy of your transaction document to **finance@gcf.org.ph** so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also give to support the church family's COVID relief efforts. Just indicate "**For COVID-19 Fund**" when you email your transaction document.

GCF RELIEF OPERATIONS FOR #UlyssesPH VICTIMS

We are accepting CASH donations for the typhoon victims. Email a copy of your transaction slip to **finance@gcf.org.ph** with the subject "Typhoon Ulysses"

CHURCH UPDATES



NO ON-SITE CONGREGATION

We are taking a break until further notice.

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Mondays and Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

LIVEstream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays | 1:00 p.m. | on Facebook at @GCFKidsLIFE

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays | 8:00 p.m. | 9 p.m. | via Zoom

DISCOVERING WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS (6-WEEK ONLINE BIBLE STUDY)

Sundays | 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | via Zoom

Pre-registration required:

(Precept) Ms Goldie/Jen: 0917-7732378 • (GCF) Marj: 0917-7791549

YA GOT QUESTIONS: WHY SHOULD I BE INVOLVED IN A LOCAL CHURCH?

April 14, 2021 | 8:00 p.m. | LIVE on GCF Facebook and YouTube page with Pastor JP Kabuhat

BUILDING LASTING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG COUPLES

April 17, 2021 | 4 – 5:30 p.m. | via Zoom | Speakers: Arnold & Flordz Perona

Online registration: tinyurl.com/CouplesFellowshipBLR | Inquire at 0917-5321921

A TASTE OF GRACE PHILIPPINES (ONLINE)

April 29, 2021 | 8 – 10:30 a.m. | via BlueJeans | Contact Mela at 0917-5327740

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Message us your prayer requests at:

Facebook: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | E-mail: pray@gcf.org.ph

GROW IN A GROWTH GROUP

SOWERS 1B GROWTH GROUP | COUPLES (AGE 55 TO 65)

Sundays | 1:00 p.m. | via Zoom | with Jerry Rivas

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

Are you joining us for the first time? We would love to get to know you more! Visit bit.ly/GCFwelcome



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

☎ (02) 8632 1357 📠 8632 1354 to 56 🌐 gcf.org.ph ✉ email@gcf.org.ph