

Sunday, May 14, 2017 - "On Mission" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Nehemiah 3

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Nehemiah rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem is an example of God's people "on mission" together
 - There are only a few other places in the Bible where this happens (Exodus 36, Acts 2)
 - When people are on mission together God does supernatural and amazing things
- 3 ideas for being on mission together as a church in our lives
- 1) **Unified Vision**
 - Nehemiah 2:17-18 (this is the vision)
 - Vision is not necessarily to build the wall BUT to get out of trouble/ruins
 - Walls (in ancient times) = identity, community, safety
 - Exodus 36 and the unified vision to build the tabernacle where God would reside
 - People were told to stop giving because they had given so much
 - The presence of the Lord (the cloud) filled the Tabernacle
 - When people worked/gave together → the presence of God was the result
 - Acts 2
 - A unified vision and purpose "added to their number daily"
 - Unity in mission points people to the Lord
- 2) **Clear Plan**
 - Building the wall was a HUGE vision
 - Sometimes vision can paralyze us because it is so big and overwhelming (just be like Jesus is a huge vision)
 - But the questions becomes "What does God want you to do today?"
 - Hear & Obey
 - Hearing what God wants us to do and then using our giftedness to do it
- 3) **Collective Contribution**
 - v1-7: Everyone was contributing
 - v2 "and next to them" (this phrase is said 25 times)
 - There is a picture of people locking arms and coming together
 - When we serve/work together it knits our hearts together in a different and special way
 - When we serve we connect and we join our hearts together
- Revival came AFTER the people decided to do the work together (in Acts, Exodus, and in Nehemiah)
- We are all a part of doing what God wants to do to live-out what God has called us to
- Jesus promised life to the full, and LIFE comes when we live on mission together

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How are you doing at living "on mission"? Where is God saying good job keep up the good work and where is he saying I have more or something else for you?
2. What would it look like for your family to have a unified vision? (see **PAGE 2** for Family Vision Examples)
3. How are you doing at using your giftedness and resources to be a part of God's plan and vision for you?
4. When was a time when you felt like God knit your heart together with others as a result of serving or working together?
5. What are some of the visions that God has given you for you life, family, work or service?
6. How is God challenging you on making your part of the collective contribution to his church and his kingdom?
7. When was a time you saw God move as a result of a unified vision, a clear plan, and a collective contribution?
8. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan - Mon: Acts 21 Tues: Acts 22 Wed: Acts 33 Thurs: Acts 24 Fri: Acts 25**

****5 Minutes Reading/5 Minutes Writing/5 Minutes Praying**

Family Vision Examples:

Our family mission is to:

- 1. Love the Lord above all else*
- 2. Always be honest*
- 3. Count your blessings*
- 4. Bear one another's burdens*
- 5. Forgive and forget*
- 6. Be kind and tender hearted to each other*
- 7. Comfort one another*
- 8. Keep your promises*
- 9. Be supportive of others*
- 10. Look after each other*
- 11. Treat each other the way you want to be treated*
- 12. Love one another deeply from the heart*

Our mission is to honor and serve God, others and ourselves. We will create a nurturing place of order, integrity, love, happiness, and relaxation. We will believe in each other. We will foster responsibility by teaching our children to love, learn, laugh and to work and develop their unique God-given talents.

*In this house we are real
We make mistakes
We say I 'm sorry
We give second chances
We have fun
We give hugs
we forgive
we do really loud
we are patient
we love*

*In Happy moments, Praise God
Difficult moments, Seek God
Quite moments, worship God
Painful moments, trust God
Every moment, thank God*