

Sunday, July 2, 2017 - "Stay the Course" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Nehemiah 6, 1 Corinthians 10:31

- 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

- God's plan for restoring, rebuilding and reviving is us, His people
  - We are called to unity. Our Unity is our witness
  - We are all called to be on mission
- God is calling us into mission and we don't get to check out
- If you are on mission, you will face opposition (there is a way to persevere) and you have an enemy who wants to take you out
- Nehemiah 6: v3 "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?"
  - This is what we can say when opposition comes
  - **If you are doing what God is asking/calling you to do, you are doing a GREAT work**
  - Satan has deceived us into thinking that what we are doing is less than someone else is doing
  - 1 Corinthians 10:31 (Paul picks normal tasks that we can do in a way to bring glory to God)
    - In everything you do, people would see it and it will make God known
    - Driving, out for dinner, talking to your coworkers. On mission 24/7
  - 6 essentials: INFLUENCE
    - We are all called to have influence for the kingdom of God
    - When we live out 1 Corinthians 10:31, it is a GREAT work
    - We make a tragic mistake when we qualify some works as great and some as less important
    - Current tense I am DOING a great work
  - You will be tempted, stirred, drawn away from the GREAT work
    - Satan pulls out all of the stops to get Nehemiah away from what God called him to
    - Message from guys who have been in opposition since day one
    - v3 Nehemiah knew that they intended to harm him
    - Pay attention to the "invitation": who is asking you? what are they asking you to do? Will it pull you away from the good work God is doing in and through you?
  - Satan will try to discredit you and ruin your reputation (v5)
    - Nehemiah speaks truth back to the accusations
    - He asks God to strengthen his hands
    - When criticism and character attaches come...we are called to rejoice
  - (v10) The prophet proposes doing something that God's word says is not allowed
    - Nehemiah was not allowed to go into the inner building (God forbids it)
    - Nehemiah knew that God had not sent him
- v15: So the wall was FINISHED (in 52 days)
  - The work had been accomplished with the help of God
  - It was a miracle. All around saw and knew that God must have been with them
  - People saw God at work
- 3 Necessary elements for staying on mission: 1. Prayer 2. The Word of God 3. Godly Character

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

1. Do you believe that you are doing a GREAT work? Why or why not?
2. How have you experienced opposition in your mission? How has God lead you to respond?
3. How is God calling you stand to against opposition right now?
4. What are some of the truths God has given you to respond to temptation, accusation, and fear?
5. How are you doing with what Doug called the 3 necessary elements to staying on mission: Prayer, Word of God, Godly Character?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Matthew 28 Tues: Proverbs 1 Wed: Proverbs 2 Thurs: Proverbs 3 Fri: Proverbs 4

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