

Recap of 12/16/18 (Nehemiah 3:1-32):

1. Nehemiah's plan for rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem was genius in its simplicity and in its effectiveness. In 52 days they accomplished what they hadn't been able to do in almost 100 years back in the land of Judea from the exile.
2. They worked side-by-side, united in purpose to accomplish the job. A great illustration to the church of what can be done when we work side-by-side, united in purpose. The New Testament teaches that we are all vital to the church and gifted to serve (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12-27; Ephesians 4:7-16; 1 Peter 2:4-5).
3. Gene Getz writes: "The church is a unique organism. It is edified and becomes mature as every member functions. God never intended for the members of the body of Christ to become dependent on one leader to do "the work of the ministry....God did not even intend for several leaders to do the work of the ministry. Rather, He intended for the whole church to do this work. It is a responsibility of church leaders to "equip the saints" to serve. Then—and only then—can a local body of believers grow and develop into a mature church."
4. Nehemiah assigned people to work on the sections of wall where their houses were located or where they served. For example, the high priest and the priests worked on the Sheep Gate, named that because it was the gate near the Temple through which the sacrificial animals work go into the Temple. Making application of that, Wiersbe writes: "The best place to start working is at your own house." Our first ministry, our first responsibility, no matter who we are, is to our spouse and to our children.