

28 June

TOPIC: Nehemiah Chapter 3



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a building project that you were involved in?
2. Whose name was mentioned first to start building? (**Eliashib the high priest – see verse 1.**)
3. How did Nehemiah organize the rebuilding? (**Started with the city gates – see verses 1;3; 6; 13; 14; 15; 27; 28; 29; 31.**)
4. Can you name the two professions outside of builders mentioned in verse 8? (**Goldsmiths and perfumers.**)



Let's go deeper

5. What were the names of the men who made repairs in front of their houses? (**Jedaiah v.10; Benjamin v.23; Zadok v.29; Meshullam v.30.**)
6. How did Nehemiah keep each person accountable for his work? (**Each man had a section of wall he was responsible for.**)
7. Did Nehemiah know who did their work and who didn't? (**Yes, he knew the nobles did not put their shoulders to the work – see 5.**)
8. Who did Shallum the son of Hallohesh; leader of half the district of Jerusalem build with in verse 12? (**He and his daughters made repairs.**)



Let's apply this

9. In this chapter we see two important building elements:
1. The need for believers to work together to accomplish something.
  2. The work done was a reflection on the family, almost everyone mentioned, is mentioned as the son of someone.

In what ways can you use your time, talents and treasures to build God's Kingdom this week:

- Hospitality; blessing someone in need with a meal.
- Music or creative arts to bless someone with message of hope
- Investing your time to love and serve your family.

SUMMARY:

Read: Nehemiah 3:1 – 32;

- **The book of Nehemiah chapter 3:**

**v.1 - 2;** Nehemiah chapter 3 is all about work – how individuals did the work together, coordinated and led by Nehemiah. The gates were the critical entry and exit points to the city, and the places most likely to see an enemy attack. Therefore, the work started at each gate and worked out from there. The Sheep Gate was the gate where shepherds brought their flocks to sell them. Eliashib the high priest was the first worker mentioned. He rose up to do the work with the other priests and they worked at rebuilding the Sheep Gate and the section of wall near there. Eliashib acted as a godly leader should; he was out in front of the work, leading by example. Eliashib was first mentioned, and the rest of the chapter is filled with the names of more than 50 others that followed his example. The idea behind consecration is to recognize something as special, as uniquely set apart for God's glory and service. Every man's work was important.

**v.3 – 5;** The Fish Gate got its name because of the nearby fish market. The word for repairs in this chapter has the idea of strengthening, encouraging, of making something strong (Kidner). The people of the city of Tekoa were more than willing to work – but their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.

**v.6 – 32;** These were men of different professions, not professional builders. Five times in the Nehemiah 3, it speaks of those who worked on the section right in front of their house. The names of the men who made repairs in front of their houses are:

- Nehemiah 3:10 mentions **Jedaiah**, and his name means He who calls unto God. Our homes must be places of prayer, where the family calls unto God.
- Nehemiah 3:23 mentions **Benjamin**, and his name means Son of my right hand, speaking of a protector. Our homes must be places of protection and peace.
- Nehemiah 3:29 mentions **Zadok**, and his name means Justice. Our homes must be places of justice and integrity.
- Nehemiah 3:30 mentions **Meshullam**, and his name means Devoted. Our homes must be places of devotion and separation to God.

- **What can we learn from Nehemiah's leadership?**

He was an effective leader because he made each man accountable for his work.  
 He was an effective leader because he noted who did the work and who didn't.  
 He was an effective leader because he organized the work around the gates.  
 He was an effective leader because he knew where to start.  
 He was an effective leader because he got the leaders and high priest working.  
 He was an effective leader because he was willing to let people try new things.  
 He was an effective leader because he made people focus on their own house first.  
 He was an effective leader because he didn't disqualify people because of past sin.