STF Group Guide: Building and Battling

Announcements:

Go Day: March 1, 2025

Looking for a way to give back? Join us for Go Day on Saturday, March 1st, as we come together to serve families in our community through hands-on projects. Whether you're helping with disaster relief, beautifying local spaces, or supporting those in need, your time and effort will make a difference.

A Better Marriage Starts Here Conference: March 7 - 8

Pastor JJ and his wife Sharon will lead the “A Better Marriage Starts Here” workshop. Pastor JJ has been committed to helping marriages be all God intends for them to be. He and Sharon have been married for 32 years and have invested in their marriage and the marriages of countless married and pre-married couples.

Get more information and announcements at stfchurch.com/events

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you from the sermon? Was there anything that challenged, convicted or confused you?

2. What type of opposition did the people rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem face? (v. 1-3, 7-8)

They faced ridicule, insults, mocking and jeering. (v. 1-3) When that didn’t work, the threats escalated and they made plans to attack Jerusalem. (v. 7-8)

3. What sort of opposition have you faced when you attempt to follow Jesus?

4. The sermon mentions five attacks of the devil: distraction, death of vision, division, discord, and disengagement. Which of these do you find most challenging?

5. How did Nehemiah counter the opposition he faced? What was his first line of defense? (v. 4, 9)

Nehemiah prayed and kept building!

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6. What did Nehemiah do in addition to praying? (v. 9)

He set a guard.

7. How does Nehemiah's response to opposition (prayer and action) challenge or inspire you? What areas of building and battling can our group join you in praying for?

8. How did Nehemiah rally the people and keep the project on track? What two things did he do? (v. 14)

Nehemiah reminded them that God would fight for them and he challenged them to fight for their brothers, families and friends.

9. Discuss the five points for being "wall-builders": Stay Focused, Be Full of Faith, Forgive Fast, Process Facts Over Feelings, Be Fit to Fight. Which of these do you need to work on most?

Practical Applications:

1. Identify one area in your life where you need to "build and battle." Create a plan to address it this week.
2. Practice responding to challenges with prayer first. Set a reminder to pause and pray before reacting to difficult situations.
3. Reach out to someone in your church or community who may be facing opposition or discouragement. Offer support and encouragement.
4. Evaluate your relationships. Are there any "Tobiahs" in your life that you need to set boundaries with?

Prayer:

- Encourage each member of your group to begin to pray for someone in their life who doesn't know Jesus. Commit to pray for them as a group.