

Experience Community

Nehemiah 4 (ESV)

10/30/22

1. God created you for community.

“There can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life, apart from an immersion in, and embrace of, community. I am not myself by myself.” - Eugene Peterson

Nehemiah 2:17–18 (Msg) Then I gave them my report: “Face it: we’re in a bad way here. Jerusalem is a wreck; its gates are burned up. Come—let’s build the wall of Jerusalem and not live with this disgrace any longer.” I told them how God was supporting me and how the king was backing me up. They said, “We’re with you. Let’s get started.” They rolled up their sleeves, ready for the good work.

John 10:10¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

1 Peter 5:8⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2. God uses community to grow you and protect you.

Nehemiah 4:6⁶ So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)¹² A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

3. **God expects you to participate in community.**

Nehemiah 4:14-15 ¹⁴ “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes.” ¹⁵ When our enemies heard that it was known to us and that God had frustrated their plan, we all returned to the wall, each to his work.

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NLT) ²⁷ All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.