

16th December 2018 Series – Another brick in the wall – The book of Nehemiah

LIFE APPLICATION – TROUBLE AT MILL PASSAGE: Nehemiah 4 1-21

LAUNCH

Icebreaker: James did a game in the service 'do you know what your biblical name is'?
Do you know what the meaning of your name is (biblical or otherwise). Is that meaning true?
Get the group to vote on it.

Or a Dave classic: name a film about being surrounded. What did the defenders need to do to get out?

DISCOVERY & APPLICATION

We read in verses 1 - 3 of Nehemiah that he was mocked publicly.

Does this happen to us today in the workplace or at church ?
If so what form can the mocking take and how do we find ourselves responding?

Do we have conflict with other Christians? What sort of things can we end up fighting about?

If so, what's the best way to sort this out?
Read Proverbs 18-21 (how does this affect our discussion about conflict?)

What's Nehemiah response to this? Vs 4-5.
Is this response appropriate for Christians to have nowadays?

Vs 6 is my favourite verse - they carried on (inspiring yes)

Vs 7-12 talks about the enemy attacking the repairers, the strength of the workers failing and friends and family outside coming in to tell them to give up. Have we ever been through this?

Plus how do we feel over Christmas?
Do you find that we can get lonely and depressed and fall into sin, more easily?

Vs 14-21 talks about Nehemiah knowing that he is surrounded and putting a plan into action.
Not only is he a planner but is a prayer as well.
How do we counter being spiritually attacked today?

What plan should be put into action to protect ourselves?

Obviously we can't go around chopping people up like in Old Testament Bible times.
It says in Ephesians ch 6 (the New Testament answer) what we should do.

Conclude with this and talk about it if you like:
Ephesians 6:10-20 New International Version (NIV) - The Armour of God