

w/b 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - Another brick in the wall

THEME: SLIP SLIDING AWAY

PASSAGE: NEHEMIAH CH 13

LAUNCH

Are there any areas of your life when someone important in your life (wife/boss/parents ) is away and you allow things to slacken off. What are the areas of slackening and what is the response when the person returns?

DISCOVERY

In what key areas had the Israelites slackened following Nehemiah's departure to resume his duties in Babylon? How did neglect of these things reveal a failing relationship with God?

UNDERSTANDING

Can you remember the five hints or tips in DWP's sermon to avoid slip sliding away?

- The first is strong Christian friends. Who are they and how do they support you? How might you go about developing these friendships?
- The second is people who speak the truth to you in love. When was the last time someone spoke the truth to you that hurt? How did you respond? How did you know that it was done in love?
- The third is investing in the kingdom. Is giving a tithe or 10% relevant to the modern Christian? Would it not be true to say we are now under grace and no longer subject to the law of the Old Testament? What does giving show about our relationship with God?
- The fourth is taking proper Sabbath Rest. Why does everyone including Christians ignore this commandment so readily? What are some of the bad consequences that might occur as a result of doing so? What would you need to do to carve out proper Sabbath rest?
- The fifth is no compromise. What are the dangers of partnering up with non Christians in business, in friendship and in marriage?

APPLICATION

Spend time praying that

- God would continue to restore prodigals and lost sheep to his church
- That he would guard those who are in the church who are vulnerable to drifting away
- That he would strengthen members of the group and continue them in their journey towards greater Christlikeness