

## Discussion Guide

[For Small Groups]

### Icebreaker

1. Share one or two things that God has been talking to you since the beginning of this series.
2. Share something you are looking forward to in the next week.

### Group Discussion

1. In Nehemiah 4 we see that Nehemiah is beginning to see his dream realized.
  - a. Share a time that you began to see a dream realized.
  - b. What are the things that you did to continue to help that dream come to reality?
2. To see a vision fulfilled, bravery and courage must be part of our character.
  - a. What are things that we can do to build bravery and courage in our character?

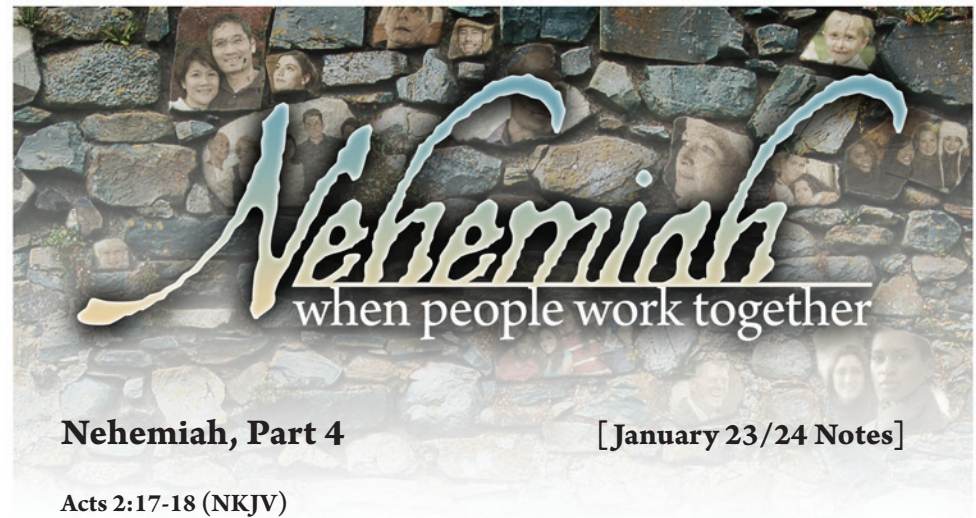
Nehemiah was guided by principles of service to God and his fellow man, and he was not afraid to speak up for them.
3. Nehemiah was guided by principles of service to God and his fellow man and he was not afraid to speak up for them.
  - a. Share a time that you spoke up for someone that was being wronged.
  - b. How did that help you to continue to do that in the future?
4. To walk out a vision we must tune into the wisdom of God.
  - a. What are some ways that we can tune into that wisdom?
5. Read Nehemiah 6:1-14.

In this passage we see how Nehemiah deals with personal criticism.

  - a. When you have personal criticism in your life, how do you handle it?"
  - b. What are some things that we can do to not allow personal criticism to lead to frustration and anger?
6. Discuss ways that you can help each other to not allow fear to rob us of the vision that God has for each of us.

### Prayer Points

1. Pray for our congregation as we continue the 40-day fast.
2. Pray that God would help us tune into His wisdom for our lives.
3. Pray for each other – that God would speak to each of us about the things that we want us to learn through the rest of this series.



## Nehemiah, Part 4

[January 23/24 Notes]

### Acts 2:17-18 (NKJV)

“Great it is to dream the dream.  
When in youth you stand at the starry stream.  
But a greater thing is to fight life through.  
And at the end say the dream is true.”

1. To see a dream come true is a fight of faith.
2. For God to do His work through us, we must put action our vision.

### Philippians 2:13 (NKJV)

### James 2:26 (NKJV)

3. After Nehemiah took time to secure the vision in his heart he boldly started walking toward his vision.
4. When we face opposition we can be tempted to abandon our vision.

Nehemiah was a brave man.

5. To be brave is to face or endure with courage.
6. Courage is to have strength in your heart and mind to withstand danger, fear, or difficulty.
7. To see a vision fulfilled, bravery and courage must be part of our character.

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## Nehemiah, Part 4

[Notes, Continued]

8. Nehemiah was guided by principles of service to God and his fellow man and he was not afraid to speak up for them.
9. Nehemiah was a man of wisdom and had godly discernment.
10. To walk out a vision we must tune in to the wisdom of God.

**James 3:13-18 (NKJV)**

**Nehemiah 6:1-9 (NKJV)**

“I am doing a good work and I cannot come down.”

11. The distraction of personal criticism came to Nehemiah.
12. Instead of being distracted by criticism, we must take our frustration and anger to God who gave us the vision to begin with.
13. The best way to silence critics is to see your vision through to completion.
14. The temptation to fear became a potential distraction.

**Nehemiah 6:10, 13 (NKJV)**

15. Every vision involves elements of the unknown which is fertile ground for fear.

Let's not allow fear to rob us of our vision for our children, our marriage, our finances, our relationships, our career, or our ministry.

**Nehemiah 6:14-16 (NKJV)**

## Bible Study

[Personal Response]

Pastor Sam said a God-given dream often accompanies dissatisfaction about something or a need we see. What is the vision God has given you? Write it out as clear as you see it.

Pastor Sam said, “With vision comes an urgency and a deep call to action.” Write down the steps you can take to activate your dream or further develop the vision God has given you. Some examples include: spending more intentional time with your kids, furthering your education, or gaining skills to help you move forward in your vision, etc.

Sometimes following our vision requires stepping out of a personal “comfort zone.” Journal about the comfort zones that are a challenge for you to move past.

Nehemiah said, “I am doing a good work and I cannot come down.” What battle do you face that continually tempts you to “come down?” Consider surrendering this to God in a deeper way this week through some type of fast.

## Weekly Bible Reading

This week, be intentional to continue your Bible reading. Consider reading along with Pastor Sam

- **Sunday** – Psalm 24, Proverbs 24, Matthew 24, Acts 24, 1 Corinthians 8
- **Monday** – Psalm 25, Proverbs 25, Matthew 25, Acts 25, 1 Corinthians 9
- **Tuesday** – Psalm 26, Proverbs 26, Matthew 26, Acts 26, 1 Corinthians 10
- **Wednesday** – Psalm 27, Proverbs 27, Matthew 27, Acts 27, 1 Corinthians 11
- **Thursday** – Psalm 28, Proverbs 28, Matthew 28, Acts 28, 1 Corinthians 12
- **Friday** – Psalm 29, Proverbs 29, Mark 1, Romans 1, 1 Corinthians 13
- **Saturday** – Psalm 30, Proverbs 30, Mark 2, Romans 2, 1 Corinthians 14

Purpose of our time of fasting and prayer points:

1. A time of personal spiritual renewal – going deeper with God.
2. A time of congregational consecration to the next season of ministry for Worship Center.
3. A time of thankful reflecting on the last 33 years.
4. A time of renewed focus on reaching those without Jesus.
5. A time of believing together for the provision for the new facility.
6. A time to receive the new facility to be used for the purposes of God.

Send comments or questions to Pastor Joe at [joec@worshipcenter.org](mailto:joec@worshipcenter.org).