

Nehemiah: The Heart of a Builder
“Capturing God’s Missional Heart
for our City”
Nehemiah 11

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November 22, 2009



God sends His people into the city to build His Church.

1. God’s strategy for the world includes your decision to live or not to live in the city.
2. Some Christians are moved by God to live in the city. These intentional urban dwellers live with focus and commitment.
3. For Christians who choose to live in the city, they live to love the whole city, to bring good to it by reflecting the good news of Jesus’ love to the city’s people.
4. There’s a price to pay for living in the city. We are to go out on the limb ... where the fruit is.
5. Cities are ripe for the gospel.
6. Jesus Himself moved from Heaven to the city to demonstrate how to be a city missionary.

The people of Israel just made an oath to separate themselves from the worship of other Gods and to intermarrying with people who worship other Gods. They will now go on with their everyday living: some will live in Jerusalem, others will live in towns outside.

Read Nehemiah 11:1-6 Think about people who chose to live in the city.

1. Where do you live? (In body, in spirit?) Does it seem odd that God is interested in where you live?
 - A. As a Christ follower, what Kingdom value and impact is there regarding the decision on where you live and work? How does this differ from decisions of people with the world’s values?
 - B. What does it mean to “live in Jerusalem” with the covenant just made in mind? What does that mean to you in terms of keeping covenant with God?
 - C. What does it mean to live outside, staying “in their own towns?”
 - D. What are the benefits/drawbacks to each? Why might people want to or not want to live in the city? Outside the city? How might each benefit the other?
 - E. List what do you bring for building the City of God within the City of Vancouver?
2. How does verse 3 speak to the faithfulness of God? How has God surprised you in His faithfulness to you?
3. List down the descriptions and jobs of the groups of people. What do you learn from this? If you/your family were described this way, what would that say?
4. Mattaniah gives thanks in v. 17. What does that say? What’s that look like in your life? How does your day change when you pause to give thanks to God? How does that deepen your walk with Jesus?

Reflect on: The attributes of God and reflections of the Gospel in Nehemiah 11

Pray: God to transform your life and renew your mind in Nehemiah 11