

Faithful Men's Spiritual Camp 2026

Faith Mission, Durrow



Studying the Life Principles of Nehemiah Let's Rise Up and Rebuild

*“The God of heaven, he will prosper us;
therefore we his servants will arise and build.”*

Nehemiah 2:20

Name: _____



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Ireland’s *Christian Men’s Camp* is a 3 day gathering of Christian men and their sons from all over Ireland and Europe. Our goal is to learn from the life of a different man in the Bible each year, so that we can grow in our faith and confidence in following the Lord Jesus Christ as they did. This Gospel meeting marvellously enables Christian men to encourage other Christian men through preaching, praying, fellowshiping, and just resting from the outside world for just a few days so that we can go back home and serve the Lord refreshed.

Schedule of Events

Time	Duration	Main Function	Support Function
WEDNESDAY APRIL 23			
4:00pm		Arrive at Camp - Unpack and Start Dinner	
5:30pm	1 hour	Dinner (<i>Burgers</i>)	
6:30pm	30 min	Break	<i>Clean-up</i>
7:00pm	1:30 hour	Session 1 – <u>Why We Rebuild</u>	Stewart Gragg
8:30pm	1 hour	Snack (<i>Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches</i>)	
9:30pm	1 hour	Prayer Groups for Camp	
10:30pm	1:30 hour	Fellowship Time	
12:00am	7:30hrs	Sleep	
THURSDAY APRIL 24			
7:30am	1 hour	Wake-Up, Take Shower	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	30min	Devotions	
9:00am	45min	Breakfast (<i>Sausages, Porridge and Cereal</i>)	
9:45am	15min	Break	<i>Clean-up</i>
10:00am	1 hour	Session 2 – <u>How to Rebuild Important Things</u>	Craig Ledbetter
11:00am	1 hour	Prayer Groups	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12 noon	1 hour	Lunch (<i>Sandwiches</i>)	
1:00pm	4:00hrs	Activities	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:00pm	1:30 hour	Dinner (<i>Spaghetti, Garlic Bread</i>)	
6:30pm	1:30 hour	Session 3 – <u>Find Your Place to Work</u>	Aiden Curran
8:00pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
8:30pm	1 hour	Session 4 – <u>Handling Opposition</u>	Phil Tharp
9:30pm	2 hour	Bonfire and Evening Quiet Time	
11:30pm	7:15hrs	Sleep	
FRIDAY APRIL 25			
7:30am	1 hour	Wake-Up, Read Bible & Take Shower	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	30min	Devotions	
9:00am	45min	Breakfast (<i>Eggs, Sausage, Porridge and Cereal</i>)	
9:45am	15min	Break	<i>Clean-up</i>
10:00am	1 hour	Session 5 – <u>Arming the Saints</u>	Craig Ledbetter
11:00am	1 hour	Break	<i>Prepare Lunch</i>
12:00pm	1 hour	Lunch	
1:00pm	4:00hrs	Activities	<i>Prepare Dinner</i>
5:00pm	1:30 hour	Dinner (<i>Roast Chicken</i>)	
6:30pm	1 hour	Session 6 – <u>Be a Finisher</u>	Dean Thompson
7:30pm	30min	Dessert, Tea and Coffee	
8:00pm	1 hour	Sports Time (Outdoor)	
9:00pm	1 hour	Pop-Corn Preaching (<i>men preaching for 5 mins each</i>)	
10:00pm	1:30 hour	Bonfire and Evening Quiet Time	
11:30pm	7:15hrs	Sleep	

SATURDAY APRIL 26

7:30am	45min	Wake-up, Read Bible & Take Showers	<i>Prepare Breakfast</i>
8:30am	30min	Devotions	
9:00am	1 hour	Breakfast (<i>Sausages, Porridge and Cereal</i>)	
10:00am	1:30 hrs	Session 7 – <u>We Need a Great Awakening</u>	Les Hill
11:30am	1:30 hrs	Pack-up and clean-up	
1:00pm	30min	Lunch (<i>Sandwiches</i>)	
2:00pm		Final Clean-up, Leave for Home	

THINGS TO RE-BUILD THIS WEEK...

Take a good, long, honest look at your home, and your heart and your LIFE!

What is it like in your head, and in your home? It probably is in ruins. What are your words like when you are angry? Do they BUILD up people, or only tear them down? What does your wife or children wish would be fixed in your life? What is your normal day like? Does it accomplish much, or is mostly wasted?

Start with removing the RUBBISH (with God's help) – repent of anything that you have refused to face and make right, like:

- Bitterness about the past, against your wife, against your own parents
- Bad habits (the smoking, laziness, sharp-words instead of kindness, constantly on your phone)
- Arrogance – the attitude that you don't need God, prayer, the Bible, spiritual help.
- Unforgiveness
- Pride that keeps you from apologising when you have done wrong or hurt someone.
- Being unthankful towards people, especially your wife!

Things to BUILD into your life, starting this week!

- Work on your WORSHIP and WALK with God first! Daily time reading the Bible. Start with making a prayer list and finding a hiding place, and just talking with God and starting over with God. THAT one step, will enable you to make all the rest of the steps you will ever have to take to have a godly, wholesome, full Christian life!
- Contentment - Simple joys.
- Your marriage and all relationships – treat people better than they deserve!

Rebuild walls to keep OUT sins and temptations. Start rebuilding the right kind of walls against sin and temptation and the devil – which we will focus on in another message. That means have a set time you read your Bible, pray, get up, go to bed, etc. It means humble yourself, and become accountable to other godly men and your wife.

Rebuild your hatred of sin in your life!

Rebuild the wall of faith against the fiery darts of the wicked!



This Year's Theme Song *What Can God Do with a Man Today*

What can God do with a man on his own,
Who is burdened beyond his own comfort zone?
Can things that are broken by sin be restored,
By a Spirit-filled man obeying his Lord?



Oh, what could God do with a man today,
Who like Nehemiah would heartily say,
“I’ll go, and I’ll build, restore what was lost;
Some things are worth doing no matter the cost!”

When Sanballat surrounded those few “feeble” men
Mocking the builders, fighting them to the end
A sword and a trowel seemed always enough
For men who are trusting God’s help to stand tough



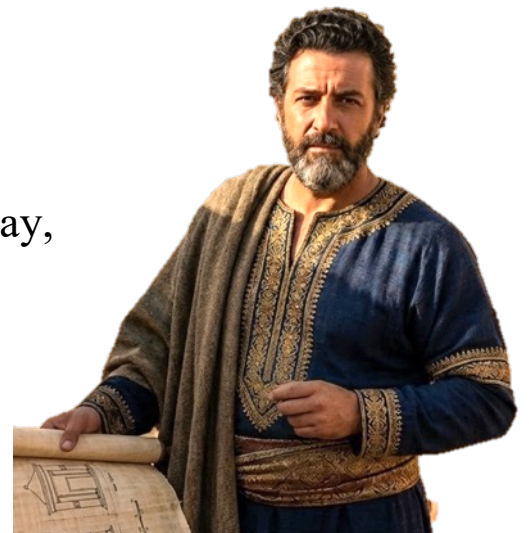
Oh, what could God do with a man today,
Who like Nehemiah would heartily say,
“I’ll go, and I’ll build, restore what was lost;
Some things are worth doing no matter the cost!”

Show me a wall with its gates burnt away
Show me the ruins where children once played
Give me a heart that is steady and brave
To rebuild every wall God's covenant gave



Use every weakness, to show You are strong
Guide every effort, correcting what’s wrong
Make me a servant who leans on God’s hand
So the world, when we’re finished, will say...
God had a plan!

[Final Chorus]
Oh, what could God do with some men today,
Who like Nehemiah would heartily say,
“We’ll go, and we’ll build,
His strength we will trust;
He’s the God of heaven,
and He’ll prosper us!”



Men of Faith We Have Studied Through the Years

MEN'S CAMP 2015

That this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.
1 Kings 18:37

June 17-20
Mt Melleray
€75 Adult
€45 Child

Studying Elijah
Turning Men's HEARTS Back Again!



Yielded Unto God
How Far Can We TRUST God?

"Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Romans 12:1


Ireland Men's Camp 2019

Learning from Isaac
Wed - Fri, April 24-26, 2019
www.biblebc.com



Lot... Making All the Wrong Choices!

Men's Camp 2014




Faithful Men's Spiritual Retreat 2006
Muckross Venue Centre, Kiltarney

Studying the Life Principles of:

Jonah

"When my soul fainteth within me I remembered the LORD"
Jonah 2:7

Doing the Will of God from the Heart!



MEN'S CAMP 2024

Untapped Valour

GIDEON

APRIL 3-6
www.biblebc.com



Men's Camp 2025
April 23-26

Learning from the life of Job

"The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." Job 1:21



Let's Rise Up and Rebuild
Studying the Life of Nehemiah

Ireland Christian's Men's Camp 2026
April 8-11, 2026



Faithful Men's Spiritual Retreat 2007
Bandon Faith Mission Camp

Studying the Life Principles of:

Peter

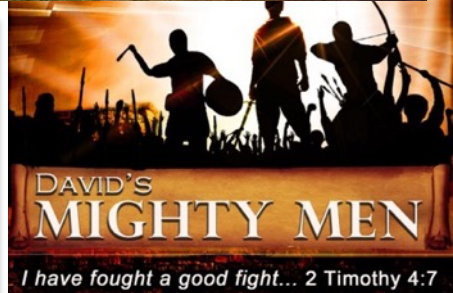
"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."
Luke 22:31,32

Old Habits Die Hard!
But the CAN die... on the cross



DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN


I have fought a good fight... 2 Timothy 4:7



MEN'S TRAINING CAMP

"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."
Proverbs 27:17

Studying the Life Principles of...
JONATHAN
APRIL 27-30, 2011
CAPOQUIN, CO. WATERFORD




Faithful Men's Spiritual Retreat 2009
Bandon Faith Mission Camp

Studying the Life Principles of
Joshua

"But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see."
Deuteronomy 3:28

Preparing to Lead




Faithful Men's Spiritual Retreat 2010
Mt Melleray Scouting Centre

Studying the Life Principles of
Adam

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."
Galatians 6:7

Taking Responsibility



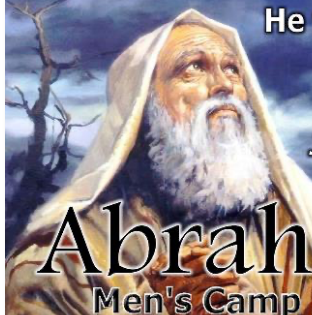
MEN'S CAMP
April 3-6, 2013

Moses: the Life of a Leader
Moses verily was faithful... a servant... testimony." Hebrews 3:5



He was called the Friend of God.
James 2:23

Abraham
Men's Camp 2012



Men's Camp 2018 - Hezekiah
April 4-7


That all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God.
2Kings 19:19



Faithful Men's Spiritual Retreat 2008
Bandon Faith Mission Camp
27th - 29th March, 2008


Studying the Life Principles of Job

"The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."
Job 1:21



Ireland Christian Men's Camp 2017
Studying the Life Principles of

Noah
The Man With A Mission!




ENOCH

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death... he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
Hebrews 11:5

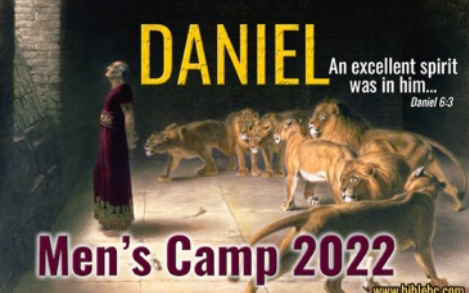
April 13-15

Christian Men's Camp 2023
www.biblebc.com



DANIEL An excellent spirit was in him...
Daniel 6:3

Men's Camp 2022



Scriptures to Memorize

Burden and Fervent Prayer	Nehemiah 2:20 The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise. and build.	Psalm 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.
	Nehemiah 1:4 I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven.	Romans 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?
Rebuilding Takes Hard Work	Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.	Nehemiah 4:6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.
	Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:	Proverbs 24:3,4 Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.
	Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.	Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.
Opposition	Nehemiah 4:14 Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.	1Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.
Arming the Saints	2Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)	Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God
Finish the Task	Nehemiah 6:9 Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.	Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
Spiritual Awakening	Nehemiah 8:5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up.	Psalm 127:1 Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

Pondering the Scriptures

Read each one of the Scripture verses we are memorizing, and ponder some questions about each one, answering them in the blanks below. It will help you.

Nehemiah 2:20 *The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise. and build.*

1. What does 'Prosper' mean? _____
2. What does God ask of us? _____
3. What do men normally do when facing a hard task? _____

Psalm 51:17 *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.*

1. What is a broken spirit? _____
2. A Contrite heart? _____

Nehemiah 1:4 *I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven.*

1. What did Nehemiah do when he learned about the condition of the Jewish people and city of Jerusalem? He sat down and _____, and _____ several days, _____, and _____ before the God of heaven!

Romans 8:31 *What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*

1. When is God 'for' us? _____
2. Can we always count on Him to "be on our side"? Yes / No

Ephesians 4:29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*

1. What does 'corrupt communication' mean? _____
2. What does it mean to edify? _____

Nehemiah 4:6 *So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.*

1. What does it mean to "have a mind to work"? _____

2. Are there times when you don't have a mind to do anything? Why do you think men get that way? _____

Matthew 7:24 *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:*

1. What does a wise man build things his life? _____
2. Describe how does a wise man build his home and life that way? _____

Proverbs 24:3,4 *Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.*

1. What is needed to build your home and family (3 things)? _____
2. How are you supposed to get those three things? _____

Colossians 3:23 *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.*

1. What does it mean to do something 'heartily'? _____
2. Who are we seeking to impress, please with the life we are building? _____

Proverbs 25:28 *He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*

1. What does it mean to have rule over our spirit? _____
2. If we don't have control of our attitudes and reactions, what are we like? _____

Nehemiah 4:14 *Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.*

1. What does it mean that the Lord is "great and terrible?" _____
2. Who is responsible for fighting for your "brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses"?

1Peter 5:8 *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*

1. Who is a Christian's true adversary? _____
2. How should a Christian prepare for Satan's tactics? _____
3. What is Satan able to do to his prey? _____

2Corinthians 10:4 *(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)*

1. What does 'carnal' mean? _____
2. What kind of weapons do Christian men have? _____

Ephesians 6:17 *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God*

1. What does a Christian have that is as powerful as a sword? _____
2. How should a Christian man use his 'sword' when under attack from Satan? _____

Nehemiah 6:9 *Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.*

1. Why do you think Nehemiah was asking God to strengthen his hands? _____

Galatians 6:9 *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

1. The Scripture implies a Christian man WILL get weary when doing what kind of effort? _____
2. So, according to this Scripture, why should a Christian never give up or quit doing the right things? _____

Nehemiah 8:5 *And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up.*

1. What Book did Ezra open and preach from? _____
2. What did all the people do when Ezra opened the Book? _____

Psalms 127:1 *Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*

1. Who do we need to build us into godly men? _____
2. How do you think God builds men? _____

3. Why is it in vain if God is not involved in the building and rebuilding of your life? _____



Summary of the Life of Nehemiah

Background and Setting

The Book of Nehemiah is set around 445–432 BC, during the period when the Jewish people were living under Persian (ancient Iran) rule. Although the temple in Jerusalem had been rebuilt under Zerubbabel and Ezra, the city itself remained in a state of ruin. Its walls were completely broken down and its massive gates had been burned with fire. Without walls, Jerusalem was defenceless, vulnerable, and a source of shame to God’s Jewish people. Nehemiah, a Jewish man serving as cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia, received fresh news of this sad condition of his nation’s capital city and was deeply disappointed that no one in almost 90 years had done anything about it. His response to that news set in motion one of the most remarkable building projects in biblical history.

The Man Nehemiah

Nehemiah held a comfortable position of trust and influence in the Persian court. As cupbearer to the king, he had protection, status, and influence in the kingdom. Yet when he heard about the broken walls of Jerusalem, he wept, fasted, and prayed for days on end. He did not rush to act on an impulse; but instead he first sought an audience with God – he wanted to ask for God to help him make a difference. Nehemiah was volunteering to rebuild the walls of the city of God! So, when the time came to speak to king Artaxerxes, he was prepared. Nehemiah had poured out his desire, and his burden that he believed had been given to him by God, and had walked away from that time with God with perfect peace about leaving everything in Persia and attempting this impossible task. He carefully asked for permission to leave his job, for letters of safe passage to Jerusalem, and even for materials for the work of rebuilding! Nehemiah certainly was a man of prayer, planning, and courage—a practical leader who relied wholly on God just like we should too.



The Burden and the Call (Chapters 1–2)

Nehemiah’s brother Hanani brought him the distressing report from Jerusalem about the city. Nehemiah’s immediate response was to turn to God in confession, worship, and petition. His prayer in chapter 1 is a great example of intercession: he honoured GOD’S greatness (greater than Artaxerxes), confessed the sins of his own nation who had brought God’s judgment on Jerusalem, reminded God of all His promises towards Israel, and asked for help. King Artaxerxes easily agreed with Nehemiah’s desire and plan to rebuild Jerusalem’s walls! Nehemiah then travelled over 1,000 miles to Jerusalem, and surveyed all the damage to the walls and gates quietly by night, and then marvellously rallied the people with the now-famous words: “Let us rise up and build” (Nehemiah 2:18).

The Work and the Workers (Chapters 3–6)

The wall of Jerusalem was not an easy thing to restore to its original strength. It was 3 miles of 18 foot thick walls, 30 feet high, with 12 massive solid wood gates placed as specific locations. It was going to take everybody working flat-out for as long as it took, to complete.

Chapter 3 records the organisation of the rebuilding effort. Priests, rulers, merchants, goldsmiths, perfume-makers, and ordinary families all took responsibility for a section of the wall. Everyone had a part to play. This is a powerful picture of God’s people working together, each one labouring on the portion of work nearest to them.

The Work Did Not Go Unopposed.

Men named Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem led a sustained campaign of opposition. They used mockery (“If a fox climbed up on it, he would break it down”), threats of physical attack, attempts at compromise, intimidation, and false accusations. Nehemiah’s response to each challenge was the same: he would pray and ask God to strengthen him, he persevered even though he was getting tired of it all, and he refused to come down from the work when it would have been easier. His famous reply in chapter 6 is a statement of godly focus: “I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down” (Nehemiah 6:3).

The Impossible CAN be Done

In just 52 days, the entire wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt and joined together from end to end—a feat that even the enemies of Israel recognised as the work of God (Nehemiah 6:16). The people worked with a tool in one hand and a weapon available to the other, a vivid picture of the balance between faith and vigilance that every believer needs.

Revival and Renewal (Chapters 8–10)

With the walls rebuilt, attention turned to spiritual restoration. Ezra the scribe read the Law of God (from Genesis to Deuteronomy) publicly to the people in sections, and the Levites helped the people understand it. The people wept when they heard the words of Scripture, convicted of how far they had strayed from God. Nehemiah encouraged them that “the joy of the LORD is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:10). And what followed was genuine revival: the people celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles for the first time in generations; they confessed their sins, and they made a solemn covenant to walk faithfully with God.

Practical Reforms (Chapters 5, 11–13)

Nehemiah was not only a re-builder of walls, he was also a reformer of people’s lives. He confronted the wealthy who were exploiting the poor through excessive interest and debt (chapter 5), and he led by personal example, refusing the governor’s provisions so as not to burden the people. In the final chapters, he addressed issues of Sabbath-breaking, mixed marriages, and the neglect of the Levites and temple worship. Nehemiah’s repeated prayer, “Remember me, O my God, for good,” reveals a man who totally depended upon God’s help, and whose deepest desire was to honour God in every area of his life.

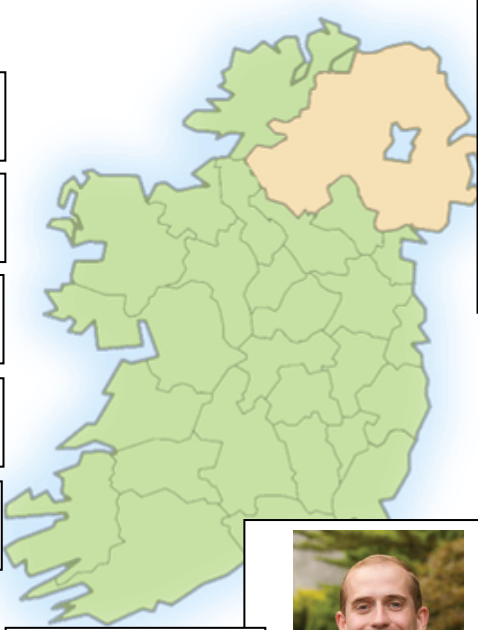
Practical Lessons from Nehemiah’s Life

1. **One man’s burden can change a nation.** Nehemiah was one man with a broken heart and a willingness to be used. God took that burden and turned it into a movement that restored an entire city and revived a nation’s faith.
2. **Prayer must come before action.** Nehemiah’s first response to every challenge was to pray. Before he spoke to the king, before he answered his enemies, before he addressed injustice—he prayed.
3. **Everyone has a part to play.** The wall was not built by one man. It took priests, officials, tradesmen, and families all doing their portion. The work of God advances when every believer takes responsibility for the part nearest to them.
4. **Opposition is inevitable.** Mockery, threats, fear, confusion, discouragement, and compromise are still the enemy’s tools today. Nehemiah teaches us to stay focused, stay prayerful, and refuse to come down, because we believe GOD over man.
5. **Rebuilding is both practical and spiritual.** Walls and worship go together. Nehemiah rebuilt the physical walls, but he also made sure the people returned to obeying God’s Word, and rededicating their lives to honouring God every day.

If You Believe the Bible, then, You're Not Alone!

These are many of the Bible believing Pastors and Churches here in Ireland

Thank God for these truly Faithful Men – God's Men!



No one is in Killarney

No one is in Athy

No one is in Kildare

No one is in Carlow

No one is in Dundalk

No one is in Ballina

No one is in Kilkenny

No one is in Tipperary

No one is in Youghal

No one is in Clonmel

No one is in Wexford

No one is in Port Laoise

No one is in Sligo

No one is in West Cork

No one is in Castlebar

No one is in Dingle



Pastor Tharp
New Life Baptist,
Drogheda



Pastor Steven
McKinley
Navan Baptist,
Navan



Pastor Flanagan
Lighthouse
Baptist, Swords



Pastor O'Sullivan
Blanchardstown
Baptist



Pastor Dan
Canavan
Hope Baptist,
Dundrum



Pastor David
O'Gorman
Lifegate Baptist
Tallaght



Andrew Canavan
Grace Baptist Church
Galway



Pastor Gene McKinley
Good News Baptist,
Mullingar



Pastor Aleksei
Jusev
Riverview
Baptist, Maynooth



Pastor Hill
Gospel Light
Baptist, Lucan



Pastor Moore
Carrick Baptist,
Carrick-on-Shannon



Pastor Finley
Redemption
Baptist, Athlone



Joshua Furan
Derry, NI



Pastor Jenkins
Longford
Baptist,



Oriel
O'Gorman



Andrew Day
Clare Bible Study
Ennis



Pastor Ledbetter
Bible Baptist,
Ballincollig, Cork



Pastor Hamilton
An Carraig
Baptist, Limerick



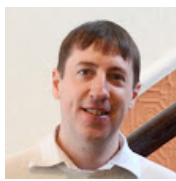
Pastor Smith
Calvary Baptist,
Bishopstown,



Pastor Thatcher
Anchor Baptist,
Waterford



Pastor Stoll
Offally



Pastor Wilson
Northwest
Baptist, Derry, NI



Stewart Gragg
Bible Baptist,
Ballincollig

Who else will join us to reach this island with the Gospel?

Thursday Devotion – What Have I Broken?

What did Nehemiah face when he examined the condition of the city walls?

Read Nehemiah 2:11-17...

Nehemiah faced one of the biggest repair projects you could ever imagine! He and a committed band of men, women and children are getting ready to pick up shovels, pickaxe's, trowels, sledgehammers, and wheelbarrows so that they could clear away 100 years of rubbish, and rebuild the city walls of Zion!

What did they see? An easy task? A weekend project? A part-time endeavour?

1. An entire city in ruins – the 15 foot high walls were “_____ down” (2:13), and all the massive gates were “_____ with fire.” There was a lot of History lay at their feet. 400 years of history going all the way back to king David, and his son Solomon. They both had built the city walls and the Temple in Jerusalem when Israel was at its peak! But now, BOTH the Temple and the walls had been completely destroyed.
2. The nation of Israel had been defeated 160 years earlier when king _____ (2Kings 25:8-10) broke down every building and wall and tower and gate in the city. When Nehemiah came and looked, there were only heaps and piles of rubbish everywhere throughout the city streets of Jerusalem (4:2).

Nehemiah and the people were not just looking at walls that were broken and thrown down and piled up... But they saw that the rubble had been BURNED, and scorched – everything was ruined. The question is “Why?” The answer is, This was the results of a lot of _____ by God's people (2Chron 36:11-21). Jerusalem was NOT really destroyed by an outside enemy, but by their own personal sins and complacency about them.

Question: What things have YOU allowed to become ruined, broken, and abandoned that once were beautiful, strong, good and amazing? Like... Your marriage, your joy, your health, your integrity (trustworthiness), your walk with God, your confidence in God (trust in Him), your job, your home life (is it structured and safe and godly?), your Gospel ministry (do you even have a part in your church ministries?), your meekness (ability to be humble instead of angry and frustrated all the time), your thoughts (are they scattered and uncontrolled or shameful?).

The truth is, there is NOT ONE HOME, or ONE LIFE that does not have a load of waste and ruin in it. Whether piled up in the past, Or in the present, some ruins are visible, but most of our ruin is invisible (emotional, mental, spiritual).

Write out what Nehemiah said to all the people in chapter 2 verses 17,18 that he was determined to do, and that THEY (we) should do as well. “_____”

Why was Nehemiah so confident that the entire city could be rebuilt? See 2:20. _____

Now is your opportunity to decide to rebuild what is broken in YOUR life, trusting the same promise!

Friday Devotion – Facing Opposition

Read Nehemiah 2:17

The task that God had put on Nehemiah's heart was impossible. The Jews didn't have the resources or manpower to rebuild the 3 and a half kilometer long wall; and they were surrounded by powerful enemies who were going to use everything from mockery, to lying, bribes, false rumours, slander, greed, open threats of murder and massacre to try and stop him and the people from rebuilding Jerusalem. Yet, Nehemiah with rock-hard resolve, told the people, **“Let us _____ up and _____” (Nehemiah 2:17)**. How did he decide that? What did Nehemiah rely on to get impossible things rebuilt and restored?

- 1. Prayer.** It is usually the last thing we think about when facing a huge project, but Nehemiah knew it was his first weapon against spiritual attacks. Soon after the Jews began to rebuild, Sanballat and Tobiah the Ammonite began to _____ their efforts (4:1-3). However, Nehemiah didn't care about their mockery. Instead, he took it to the Lord in prayer; and he kept right on building (4:4-6). Likewise, when their enemies began to make plans to attack them, the very first thing that Nehemiah did was to lead the people in corporate prayer (4:7-9). Prayer should always be your first response to the enemy (whether “the enemy” be wicked men, demons, or your own sinful desires). Take up the resource of **“all _____” (Ephesians 6:18)**; and be **“careful for nothing,”** [don't be full of fear of anxiety] but **“in every thing by _____ and supplication with thanksgiving let your _____ be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6)**.
- 2. Faith and Trust in God's abilities and promises.** Nehemiah also faced the discouragement of the people—both because of tiredness, and fear of being attacked by their enemies. The easy thing to do would have been to abandon the project. But Nehemiah responded by putting the people into shifts, with one half holding spears, and the other half doing the work; and all workers had weapons at their side at all times (Neh 4:10-23). You need to start acting because of your faith. The Bible says, **“Faith without works is _____” (James 2:20)**. Don't allow Satan's attacks to cause you to stop doing the hard things that are right to do! Satan may seem to “ease off” his attacks when you stop going to church, praying, reading your Bible, and stop living by faith; but in the end, Satan will take advantage of those broken-down wall in your life, and will strike (1Peter 5:8).
- 3. God's Wisdom.** Toward the end of the 52 days of building, Nehemiah had to deal with many schemes on the part of Sanballat and Geshem, to entrap or stop him. They called him to private conferences, with the hope of killing him; made up fake rumours that he was trying rebel against the king of Persia; and bribed a fake _____ to try convince him to hide in the Temple, so that he would look guilty (Neh 6:1-14). Nehemiah didn't fall for any of these traps, because... he was filled with the Holy Spirit that gave him the wisdom to know what to do. Ask God daily to be filled with the same **knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding” (Colossians 1:9)** that Nehemiah had. Don't listen to ungodly voices and fall into Satan's traps! That means, reduce your time on social media and spend more time asking for God's wisdom.

Your enemies could be waiting for you back at home or at work. So, Ask God to build up your defenses right now, and help your resolve to stay building, no matter how long it takes, simply because it is the right thing to do!

Saturday Devotion – How to Renew Your Joy

Read Nehemiah 8:9-10

Shortly after the wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt, Nehemiah (along with Ezra and the Levites) spoke these words of comfort to the people. After such a great victory, why did the people need comfort? Because the "_____ of the _____ of God" had just been read to them; and they now realised how short they as a nation had fallen of God's requirements as God's people (**Nehemiah 8:8**). They had become so ignorant of God's Law, that most of them weren't even observing the Feast of _____ (**Nehemiah 8:14**).

We, too, often fail to realise how drastically we are failing to do God's will (even after we've had a spiritual victory in our lives). We often have a certain "joy" in our lives; but it is usually a fake, worldly joy. Here is how to have true (and continual) joy as a Christian man:

1. **Be convicted by God's Word, and mourn over your sin.** The reading of the Law pierced the people's hearts, and caused them to mourn, because they were convicted of the sin in their lives. We, too, must mourn over our own sin. Jesus said, "***Blessed are they that _____: for they shall be _____***" (**Matthew 5:4**). A great promise!
2. **Repent of your sin.** Feeling sorry for your sin isn't enough. True, godly sorrow will lead you to "_____" (**2 Corinthians 7:9-10**). To "repent" means to "turn your mind, heart, and will" from sin to God. Our fake "joy" must turn to "heaviness" (**James 4:9-10**). The "joy" that must be turned to heaviness is the *false* joy that you have when you are doing things your own way and seemingly getting on just fine. This fake joy must give way to sorrow for sin, and to repentance. God then promises to "lift up" the believer, and fill His heart with *strong* joy; and this joy imparts a supernatural *strength* to the believer. It enables you to do things that you couldn't do in your own strength. The "*joy of the LORD*" enables you to serve God with our whole heart, mind, strength, and being, even when there seems to be no visible reward for doing so. It is a "*joy _____, and full of glory,*" because it is based upon your personal relationship with Jesus (**1 Peter 1:8-9**)! The people of Nehemiah's day *were* comforted and *were* filled with "gladness" as they decided to humbly celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles again (**Neh 8:17-18**).
3. **Stay in church, and keep learning God's Word.** To stay joyful, you need to keep doing the right things. Church is where you keep being challenged by God's Word and keep being encouraged by fellow believers. Church is where you are "*provoked*" unto "*love and good _____*" (**Hebrews 10:24-25**). If the Jews gathered together and *stood* for one quarter of the day (3 hours) while God's Word was being read to them, surely you can go to God's House and sit for an hour or two on Sunday and Wednesday, and hear God's Word read and preached!
4. **Keep on repenting and confessing sin.** The people had been in the habit of gathering for these long Scripture readings ever since the first day of the month, when Ezra had stood up and read the law from "*morning until midday*" (**Nehemiah 8:3**). Obviously, the "joy of the LORD" produced a desire for *more* confession of sins, *more* assembly time with God's people, and *more* reading of God's Word. These activities weren't exactly restful (and certainly not ego-building); but it brought them joy! Get used to sensing when you are not doing the right things, and keep rebuilding godliness in your life. That is when you will discover that the "joy of the _____ is your strength"!

Session One – Walls, Rubbish, and Why We Rebuild

Stewart Gragg – Bible Baptist Church, Ballincollig

“I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven.” Nehemiah 1:4

Sermon Notes



Session Two – How to Actually Rebuild the Important Things

Pastor Craig Ledbetter – Bible Baptist Church, Ballincollig

“So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.” Nehemiah 4:6

Welcome to our 30th Annual Men’s Retreat!

Sermon Notes



Session Three – Find Your Place to Work

Aiden Curran, New Hope Men's Home, Tallaght, Dublin

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.”
Colossians 3:23

Sermon Notes

Session Four – Handling Opposition

Pastor Phil Tharp, New Life Baptist Church, Drogheda

“Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.” Nehemiah 4:14

Sermon Notes

Session Five – Arming the Saints – Helping Men Rebuild

Pastor Craig Ledbetter, Bible Baptist Church, Ballincollig, Cork

“(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)” 2Corinthians 10:4

Sermon Notes



Session Six – Be a Finisher

Dean Thompson, Church Planter in Northern Ireland and UK

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” Galatians 6:9

Sermon Notes



POP-CORN PREACHING

Write down some things on this page that God taught you during Men's Camp and be ready to tell everyone on Friday evening what you learned! Or, you can tell about when and why you got saved! You only need to speak for 5 minutes – just be loud, and clear, and speak from the heart!



Session Seven – We Need A Great Awakening

Pastor Les Hill, Gospel Baptist Church, Lucan, Dublin

“And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up.”

Nehemiah 8:5

Sermon Notes

What Have You Learned?

16 penetrating questions drawn directly from the book of Nehemiah:

1. When did you last weep over something broken in your life, your family, or your church the way Nehemiah wept over Jerusalem — and what did you do about it?

2. Is there a broken wall in your life that you have been walking past for years without doing anything, telling yourself it is someone else's responsibility?

3. Nehemiah heard bad news and immediately turned to prayer and fasting before he did anything else — when bad news hits you, what is your first response?

4. Nehemiah prayed for months before he acted — are you willing to wait on God's timing even when the problem in front of you feels urgent?

5. When Nehemiah stood before the king and was suddenly asked what he wanted, he prayed a quick silent prayer before answering — do you have that kind of moment-by-moment dependence on God, or do you only pray when you have time set aside for it? Be honest! _____

6. Nehemiah's prayer in chapter 1 included honest confession of his own sin before he asked for anything — does your prayer life include genuine personal confession, or do you mostly bring requests?

7. Nehemiah inspected the entire city wall privately at night before he told anyone his plan — are you a man who thinks carefully before you speak, or do you lead with your mouth before your mind is ready?

8. Have you ever done an honest private survey of the broken areas of your own life — your marriage, your walk with God, your habits, your character — the way Nehemiah surveyed those walls alone in the dark? What parts of your life has God dealt with you about this week at men's Camp? _____

9. Nehemiah told the people plainly what was wrong and what needed to be done — are you willing to name what is broken in your home or church honestly, or do you avoid the conversation because it is uncomfortable?

10. Nehemiah's leadership and authority came from the fact that he was working harder than anyone else the entire time — do the people under your leadership see you working alongside them, or only directing from a distance?

11. Chapter 3 shows that every man built the section of wall opposite his own house — are you fixing what is nearest to you first, or are you busy with distant projects while your own home is in disrepair? Be honest!

12. Sanballat mocked the builders publicly to discourage them — so, who or what is currently mocking your efforts to rebuild, and how are you responding to it?

13. When the people became tired and discouraged halfway through the work in chapter 4, Nehemiah rallied them by reminding them of God and of what they were fighting for — who in your life needs you to be that voice of encouragement right now? _____

14. Nehemiah refused to come down from the wall when his enemies tried to distract him, saying "I am doing a great work" — what “lesser” (less important) work are you allowing to pull you away from the bigger, more important work you should be doing? You might have to think hard on this. _____

15. When the walls were finished the people gathered to hear the Word of God read publicly and what did they do? _____

When did you last respond to Scripture with that kind of genuine emotion and conviction rather than familiar familiarity? _____

16. The book ends with Nehemiah returning to find that corruption had crept back in during his absence — what areas of your life tend to constantly slide back into disorder when you stop paying attention, and what are you going to do now to guard them consistently? _____

Prayer List

“Men ought always to pray, and not to faint” Luke 18:1

This list can be used every time we get together to pray, and should be added to as we learn of individual needs and requests.

For Salvation (2 Pet 3:9) *“God is not willing that any should perish...”*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

For Christian Growth (2 Pet 3:18) *“but grow in grace”*

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

For Special Needs (Health, Family concerns)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

For Your Church Needs

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Anything Else – including your own needs

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____