



Care Where You Are Planted | Nehemiah 3:1-32

1. How has the teaching from our 'Hearts For Harvest' series impacted your daily living since hearing the first two messages? So far, we have considered (1) the three great concerns of our faith and (2) Jesus's deep compassion for others.
2. Who are the Nehemiahs' of our day? If you can think of anyone, what is it that sets them apart?
3. Skim read Nehemiah 3. Do any words or phrases jump off the page to you? Why, do you think, does God include long lists of people in the Bible? What's the learning point here?
4. If you were listed in Nehemiah 3, how do you think you would be described and which part of the wall would you like to be working on, or not? Use your imaginations. Have some fun by making contemporary applications as you answer the question.
5. Chris mentioned the 'next to' principle. What did you understand this to mean and how does it apply to our Bible reading? What do you make of Nehemiah singling out of the nobles of Tekoa? Can you think of a time when leaders have refused to participate but the people have joined in regardless?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 3:6-8 and skim read 1 Corinthians 12:12-31. Can you think of an occasion when your effectiveness/fruitfulness has been made possible because of the efforts/partnership of others? Think of some examples from everyday life and in your journey of faith too.
7. Chris' second sermon point was, 'in front of' - "respond to what God has placed in front of you". How is Nehemiah's strategy to deploy people to labour in front of their own property genius? Are there contemporary equivalents of how this strategy is being/could be deployed in Christchurch today? Which issues are you tackling that are 'in front of' where you live/work/socialise/shop/etc.? You might want to consider social action, creation care, an issue of ethics, an injustice, inequality, prejudice, a campaign, etc.
8. Discuss the ingredients which contributed to Nehemiah's 'devotement' to God's vision. Is God stirring a 'holy discontent' or 'devotement' within you? How are you acting upon it if he is?
9. Spend some time praying together about the things you have discussed. Since 'The Great Big Green Week' has just begun (18-26 September), you may want to pray about the forthcoming COP26 meeting and/or your personal commitment to creation care.