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**Nehemiah: “The Strategist Prophet” – 8/17/2025**

**Opening Question(s): Nehemiah faced a situation others were willing to overlook. His love for the Lord drove him to action. Is God moving in your heart today to be realistic and objective about your own faith life?**

**Nehemiah: The Lord Has Comforted”**

**Scripture references: Nehemiah 1**

**Book Recommendation: The Nehemiah Code by O.S. Hawkins**

**Simple Sermon Summary:**

Pastor O.S. Hawkins asks the question right in the beginning of his book: “Who among us is not in need of an occasional new beginning as we journey through different periods of our lives?” It does not matter whether we are talking about **rebuilding a marriage, rebuilding after addiction, rebuilding after being** fired from a job, **rebuilding a business**, **rebuilding our integrity**, or **rebuilding our church** after a great trial. The life principles are the same and the applications do not waver. **God’s Word gives us every necessary lesson and instruction if we care to find it**.

**Discussion Questions:**

We do not often think of the word “strategy” when we speak of Biblical principles. Nehemiah plans and strategizes each move he makes in his efforts to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem**. How do you plan and strategize on your faith journey? Share with your LifeGroup.**

**Nehemiah views the situation in Jerusalem realistically. He identifies problems and makes plans to resolve them. Do you ever take opportunity to examine your life objectively?**

**Is it difficult to be objective about yourself?**

**Would you allow your close spiritual friends to help in that process?**

**How do you feel when difficulties arise in your church?**

**Are you motivated to become involved, or would you rather remain uninvolved?**

Nehemiah tells the people first to face up to their situation. You will always have naysayers. You will always have negative people, and timid souls who are willing to sit on the sidelines and give their opinions. It is the nature of the devils’ advocate to always point out why something will fail. God wants to use you for His purposes in His Kingdom. **How do you combat negativity in your spiritual life?**

**In Chapter 3, Nehemiah arms each man with a sword in one hand and a tool in the other so the work will continue. What example do we take from this illustration?**

**Nehemiah and the people complete the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem in 52 days. Why was he able to accomplish what others had delayed for years?**