

Student Takeover

Small Group Questions: Can't Stop, Won't Stop

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Read

Nehemiah 1:4; 4:4–14 and 6:1–3; and John 10:10

Reflect

Jerusalem is invaded and its people taken captive. In the book of Nehemiah, the remnant Jews are oppressed and in despair. The news breaks Nehemiah's heart. After much prayer and fasting, he asks the Persian king to let him inspect the broken walls of Jerusalem. Once appointed governor of Judah, Nehemiah sets to work to rebuild the city walls. What aspects of Jesus does Nehemiah embody? What do you respect most about Nehemiah? What is the faith of the next generation worth?

Pastor Jon Hohm describes how to make a difference in the next generation:

1. When you said "yes" to Jesus, you said "yes" to the trenches.
 - a. When and how have you faced heavy opposition to something you knew was right to do?
 - b. Describe a time you stayed the course and saw results?
2. Sometimes it takes our heart breaking for it to awaken.
 - a. How have you seen sin break someone you care about?
 - b. In what ways have you had your heart broken?
 - i. Did it create a burden to effect change? Did it burden you with a vision? Explain.
 - ii. What motivates you and can it impact someone else positively?
 - c. Is there something broken that you are ignoring? Explain.
 - d. Who do you have influence over? What responsibility does that place on you?
3. Nehemiah's response was to take action, and his first action was prayer.
 - a. If you feel called to personally accomplish a task for God, what action do you take first?
 - b. How has prayer kept you sensitive and focused on your task?
 - c. When have you felt inadequate? How has God shown you the value of your obedience?
4. What you allow to name you, will claim you.
 - a. How has the enemy normalized, rationalized, and redefined sin? What have we grown used to today? What negative words do you accept about yourself? Why accept them as true?
5. Prayer guards your heart from cynicism and your mouth from criticism.
 - a. How does Nehemiah stand in the gap? How can you?
 - b. How have you seen morale drop when you're in the midst of an important task?
6. Nehemiah championed the parent.
 - a. How can you emulate Nehemiah to fight, defend and rebuild for the next generation?
7. It's not about what we build, it's about who we build.
 - a. How did Nehemiah's opposition try to kill his influence? Who are you influencing?
8. The enemy wants to steal your worship, kill your identity, and destroy the image of God.
 - a. Have you gotten close enough to be bothered by an injustice? What will you do about it?
 - b. What has someone rescued you from? How willing are you to risk rescuing someone else?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?