

FUTURE BUILDERS

Discussion Notes

FIGHTING WITH MY FAMILY

Sam spoke about the way that our society glorifies the individual. This manifests itself in ordinary people feeling disempowered and looking to powerful people to build our future.

- Do you agree with this?
- What does that look like in reality? Sam mentioned Trump, can you think of other examples where ordinary people are left feeling powerless and feel like they can't build their own future?
- How have you felt pressure from a society that says it is all about the individual? Does it effect the way you live?

Nehemiah shows us a different way. Instead of this story being all about one hero, it is a story about a whole community coming together to do something amazing. The first thing we notice from the story of Nehemiah 3 is that there are loads of different types of people who help rebuild the walls. Sam summed this up by saying 'everyone gets a shovel'.

- What does it look like for you to 'grab a shovel' today?
- What stops us from feeling like we can contribute?
- How can comparing ourselves to others get in the way of what God wants us to do?
- Sam also explained that Nehemiah 3 teaches us that there is no 'holy work' and 'ordinary work' as the priests were digging as much as the tradesmen etc. Does your 9 to 5 work feel like part of 'rebuilding the wall'? If not, how can we use that as an opportunity to do what God wants us to in our workplace?

Next up, we learnt that the challenges of building the wall were enormous and so the workers had to all pull together, even though they were from different backgrounds and trades. Sam described this as 'everyone shares the same vision.'

- Do you feel like we as a church community are pulling towards the same vision?
- What stops us from doing this?
- Is it easy to lay aside our own personal vision for our life and buy into a shared vision? Or even, should we? How do we balance what God calls us to as an individual and what God calls us to as a church community?

Finally, Sam explained that Nehemiah made this work by dividing Israel into smaller teams that each tackled a section of the wall. We like to think of our Hubs as the same idea, our church community is divided into smaller teams where we can support and challenge one-another.

- How can we as a Hub challenge each other more in our day-to-day lives?
- Are there specific things that we as a Hub share a passion for and could work on together? i.e. Wild Goose or something else entirely