

GREAT EXPECTATIONS SERIES

"Action"

Nehemiah 3

I. **We need every person to participate.** (1 Cor 12; Ps 133; Ecc 4: 8 – 12)

- God loves to work through people.
- God loves to work on people.
- Leaders are to set the pace. (v. 1)
- There's always one... (v. 5)

II. **We need every person to cooperate.** (1 Cor 12; Ps 133; Ecc 4: 8 – 12)

- They were not competing but completing one another.
- They had different assignments, but the same goal.

Small Group Discussion Guide

Read Nehemiah 2:17-18. What does it mean to have 'Great Expectations'? What "call to action" did Nehemiah extend to the people? How did they respond to this challenge? Why is it important for Concord to call each of us to act?

Using these same verses, list three (3) possible reasons the people responded the way they did. Discuss with your group what you think it takes to move a vision into reality. How can I support "Great Expectations" financially? How can my family sacrifice/contribute in creative ways? How have you seen the Lord provide when you have given "up and above" your own ability and above your regular offering?

Read 2 Malachi 3:8, Lev. 23:9-11, I Cor. 15:20. What is a 'first fruit offering'? Where else do we see first fruits in the Bible? Share how you prepare to give God your first fruits in our church wide effort.

Based on Neh. 3, what advice would you give to a member who says "I just don't have anything to give?" Why is it important to give up and above?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-21 & Nehemiah 3 (entire chapter). Explain the correlation between these two passages. From Nehemiah 3, make a list of the various "groups" that were involved in the building project and also list how many "gates" were repaired. How does this listing exercise help you understand the scope of this project? What type of attitude and level of commitment did this project require from the people? What might have resulted if the people did not participate or do their part? Describe a large project you've worked on that required the involvement of many people. What caused the project to be successful? What were hindrances? Why is it important that everyone participate?

Why is it important that Concord have a vision to 'Grow People'?

Challenge Question: For a deeper understanding of the significance of this project, research why a city's wall was of extreme importance in this day and time. What did a city's wall represent? What "walls" are we asked to build? How do we plan to sacrifice and 'put on our construction hats' to help build?

Taking it home: How will I live it? Apply it?

As Concord prepares for our own building project/capital campaign, how will you personally and actively become involved? Your part may not be the same as someone else, but your part is needed and God has a specific role for you to play and complete. Spend extra time in prayer asking God how he wants you to personally become involved in the capital campaign. Make notes of what God speaks to you based upon I Cor. 12:12-21. Then move to "action." Have you prepared to make a financial commitment and render a first fruits offering on January 30th?

TEXT QUESTIONS TO: 214.470.8543