



**St Helen's
St Edmund's**

Nehemiah Keeps Going - Nehemiah 6: 1-16

Growth Group Questions

Read through Nehemiah 6:1-16 and pray that God would be at work by his Spirit during your time together.

1. Can you think of a time it's been hard to keep going, you faced huge problems and it was tempting to give up?
2. In Nehemiah 6 we see Nehemiah facing significant problems as he went about God's big build. He was being hounded by Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem. How do they cause him problems?¹
3. We too are invited to be part of God's Big Build - building his church as men and women come to faith in Jesus, grow in Him and are rooted in the local church. In what ways are our struggles similar and different from Nehemiah?

¹ On Sunday we didn't look at the problems Shemaiah caused Nehemiah. You may be wondering why he would have sinned if he shut himself in the house of God. To do this would have been to go into the part of the temple reserved for Priests therefore giving him a bad name and discrediting him. Great damage is done to the cause of the gospel when we sin and discredit him. This has been sadly evident in recent failings of some evangelical church leaders.

4. While Nehemiah faces significant problems he does keep going. What can we learn from how he responds to help us keep going building God's church in the face of opposition?

5. The Bible is clear our enemy is seen and unseen. We have our own Sanballat's and Tobiah's. We also have an unseen enemy; 'be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour' (1 Peter 5:8). Wonderfully we are on the winning side. Look at Colossians 2:15
And [Jesus] having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Jesus death looked like defeat. It was in fact the most wonderful victory. How does Jesus triumph over the enemy on the cross?

6. We will often feel weak as we go about God's big build. Look at verses 15 and 16. How do they give us confidence and strength as we crack on building?

Finish by praying for each other, and praying that God would strengthen us to keep going with God's Big Build as men and women and boys and girls come to faith in Jesus, grow in Jesus and root themselves in the local church.