

GETTING PEOPLE TO WORK TOGETHER

Building a Better Future
Rick Warren

Nehemiah 3:1-32

Key words in this chapter (different translations)
BUILT – 30 times REBUILT – 29 times
REPAIRED – 31 times WORKED – 24 times

1. DIVIDE THE DREAM _____

Key Phrase: “SECTION” is used 26 times (CEV) — “a smaller part of the whole”

“The next section was built by . . .” Nehemiah 3:2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, etc.

2. LET OTHERS _____ OF THE DREAM

Key Phrase: “By his OWN house” used 6 times

“Jedaiah repaired the wall beside his OWN house.” Nehemiah 3:10

“Hashabiah built the wall in his OWN district.” Nehemiah 3:17

“Each priest made repairs near his OWN house.” Nehemiah 3:28

“Benjamin and Azariah repaired the wall by their OWN homes.” Nehemiah 3:23

3. ORGANIZE AROUND _____

Nehemiah: “I posted them by families.” Nehemiah 4:13

“Eliashib and his fellow priests rebuilt the Sheep Gate.” Nehemiah 3:1

“The men of Jericho built the next section.” Nehemiah 3:2

“The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate.” Nehemiah 3:3

“Shallum and his daughters built the next section.” Nehemiah 3:12

“The goldsmiths and the merchants built another section.” Nehemiah 3:32

4. DEVELOP _____

Key Phrase: “NEXT to them” is used 21 times in Nehemiah 3
18 different teams are mentioned

“We are partners working together for God.” 1 Corinthians 3:9 (GNT)
58 “one another” in the New Testament!

“Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; because they get more done by working together. Also if one falls down, the other can help him up. . . And two can resist an attack that would defeat one person alone. Three people is even better. A rope made of three cords is hard to break.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT/GNT)

“Above all else, you must live in a way that brings honor to the good news about Christ . . . I want to know that you are working together and striving side by side to get others to believe the good news.” Philippians 1:27 (CEV)

5. LOVE EVERYONE, BUT _____

Nehemiah wasn’t discouraged by those who would *not* help.

“The next section of the wall was rebuilt by the men of Tekoa BUT the nobles of that town refused to work or help.” Nehemiah 3:5

- **WASTE NO TIME** _____

“Why do you judge your brothers or sisters in Christ? And why do you think you’re better than they are? Remember, each of us will stand personally before the judgment seat of God . . . Then each of us have to give a personal account to God. So stop judging each other!” Romans 14:10, 12-13 (NLT)

- **REMEMBER GOD WILL** _____

“The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways, but good people will be rewarded.” Proverbs 14:14

“People who are generous will themselves be blessed.” Proverbs 22:9

6. NEVER STOP _____

Paul: “I never stop being grateful for you, as I mention you in all my prayers.”
Ephesians 1:16 (CEV)

WHAT TO APPRECIATE

- **RECOGNIZE** _____

71 individuals are named in Nehemiah 3

- **RECOGNIZE** _____

“They laid beams and put the doors, and bolts and bars in place.” Nehemiah 3:6

- **RECOGNIZE** _____

“Baruch ZEALOUSLY repaired another section.” Nehemiah 3:20

- **RECOGNIZE** _____

“Meremoth repaired the section by the Fish Gate . . . THEN he ALSO repaired ANOTHER section by the high priest’s home.” Nehemiah 3:4, 21

Homework: Write a note of appreciation each day this week!

NO work . . . SOME work . . . ENTHUSIASTIC work

- Which describes my involvement in God’s work on earth?

“Brothers and sisters. . . Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your work for the Lord is never wasted!” 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NCV)