

DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 3

WELCOME.

WORSHIP.

Sing: WORTHY (Elevation)

WORD.

Introduction: Rebuilding a city is not a one-person job. This chapter lists the names of individuals and families whom Nehemiah assigned to undertake the rebuilding of the gates. Nehemiah's strategy was to rebuild the gates first and then fill in the gaps. The unity of God's people is key to the pursuit of God's purpose.

Scripture: Nehemiah 3

Nehemiah 3 records the names of more than 50 people who repaired the city gates. Scripture is living and active—even the chapters of genealogies and detailed lists that seem boring have significance to the whole story. Here are the expositional and application points from this chapter:

- 1. Nehemiah required everyone's willingness and availability to help rebuild the wall. Jesus requires every disciple's willingness and availability to help build His church.
- 2. Nehemiah assigned and appointed sections for each family to take care of.

 Jesus assigns and appoints you to reach the specific spheres of influence He places you in.
- 3. **Nehemiah delegated roles according to giftedness.**Jesus gives His disciples with spiritual gifts, talents and abilities for the church's common good.

Discuss the following questions:

- 1. What is significant about this chapter and the names listed? What does this teach us about how God uses a variety of people with different skills and gifts to participate in the work of building?
- 2. What important leadership principle from Nehemiah's example can we learn from this chapter?
- 3. Are there any unique giftings, skills, or abilities God has given you? What are they? How have you historically used these gifts?
- 4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4–11. According to this passage, why does God give gifts to His people (1 Corinthians 12:7)? Why do you think He gives different kinds of gifts? Discuss.
- 5. Read Romans 12:3–8. In your own words, discuss the metaphor of the "body" that Paul lays out in this text.
- 6. Because there are different needs in the church, different gifts are required. Having considered some of God's purposes for our gifts, passions, and resources, where might God be calling you in the church specifically?
- 7. For everyone who is a part of a ministry team: share with the group what team you're on and why you chose to serve in it. For those who aren't in any teams yet: share with the group what you're good at or passionate about?

WORK.

- Reflect on and spend some time praying about how we can spur another to good works.
- Ask God to use you powerfully in specific ways to build up the church for the common good, but also
 outside of the church to bring Jesus to our city.