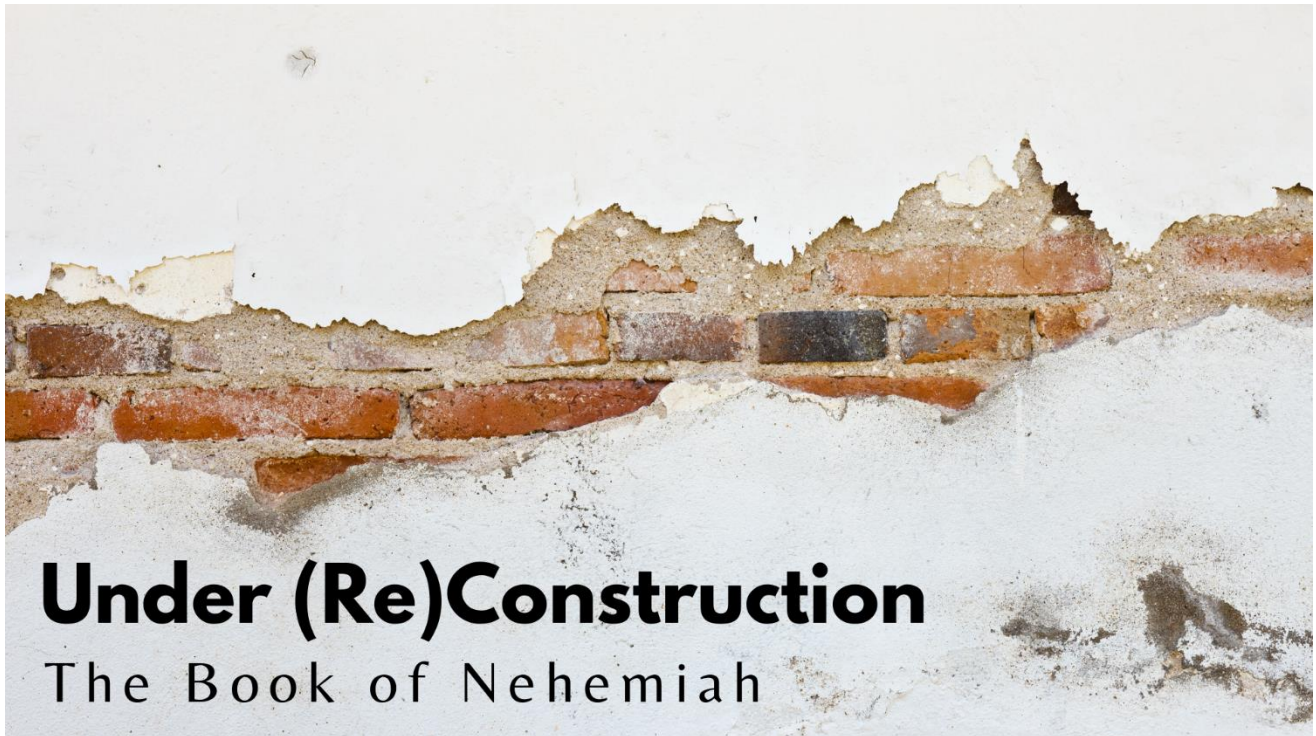


Winter 2022



Under (Re)Construction

The Book of Nehemiah

This winter, our sermon series will be on Nehemiah. God's people had been in exile for decades, and it was time to go home to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem. But it wasn't just the structures that needed attention. The people of God needed a clearer understanding of who they were and whose they were. They too were under (re)construction.

This is an interesting time in our history as we continue to deal with COVID-19 realities, economic challenges, and other important crises and changes in our world. In addition, we as a church are starting a new year under a new leader for the first time in 42 years. Though we have experienced a season of disorientation, this is an exciting time for deeper transformation and greater ministry than ever before.

We invite you to follow the devotions that accompany the sermon series. The questions are laid out in three parts: First, take time to reflect on God's word as it was written for the people in Nehemiah's day. What did it mean to them then? Second, take time to reflect on your own life in prayer. How is God's word speaking to you today? Finally, understand that Nehemiah is a book of action, so the critical concern is to actually hear God's invitation to *do* something—to act. Suggestions of actions are given, but each of us needs to allow the Holy Spirit to guide us.

God has something he wants to say to us in our context. Let us pray our study of Nehemiah will be life changing for us and for those God wants us to serve.

Winter 2022 - Devotional Readings from Nehemiah

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Jan 3 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:1-3	4 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:4	5 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:5-6	6 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:7-8	7 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:9-10	8 <i>Nehemiah</i> 1:11	9 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 1						
10 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:1-3	11 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:4-6	12 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:7-8	13 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:9-10	14 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:11-16	15 <i>Nehemiah</i> 2:17-20	16 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 2						
17 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:1-5	18 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:6-12	19 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:13-17	20 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:18-22	21 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:23-27	22 <i>Nehemiah</i> 3:28-32	23 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 3						
24 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:1-5	25 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:6-9	26 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:10-14	27 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:15-18	28 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:19-20	29 <i>Nehemiah</i> 4:21-23	30 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 4						
31 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:1-5	Feb 1 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:6-8	2 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:9-11	3 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:12-13	4 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:14-16	5 <i>Nehemiah</i> 5:17-19	6 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 5						
7 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:1-3	8 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:4-7	9 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:8-9	10 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:10-14	11 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:15-16	12 <i>Nehemiah</i> 6:17-19	13 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 6						
14 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:1-4	15 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:5-7a	16 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:7b-38	17 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:39-56	18 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:57-65	19 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:66-73a	20 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 7						
21 <i>Nehemiah</i> 7:73b-8:4	22 <i>Nehemiah</i> 8:5-8	23 <i>Nehemiah</i> 8:9-10	24 <i>Nehemiah</i> 8:11-12	25 <i>Nehemiah</i> 8:13-15	26 <i>Nehemiah</i> 8:16-18	27 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 8						
28 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:1-5	Mar 1 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:6-8	2 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:9-15	3 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:16-25	4 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:26-31	5 <i>Nehemiah</i> 9:32-38	6 <i>Read and Reflect</i> ***
Nehemiah Week 9						

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mar 7 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:1-27	8 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:28-29	9 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:30-31	10 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:32-34	11 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:35-37	12 <i>Nehemiah</i> 10:38-39	13 <i>Read and Reflect***</i>
Nehemiah Week 10						
14 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:1-2	15 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:3-6	16 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:7-14	17 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:15-18	18 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:19-24	19 <i>Nehemiah</i> 11:25-36	20 <i>Read and Reflect***</i>
Nehemiah Week 11						
21 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:1-21	22 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:22-26	23 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:27-30	24 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:31-37	25 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:38-43	26 <i>Nehemiah</i> 12:44-47	27 <i>Read and Reflect***</i>
Nehemiah Week 12						
28 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:1-3	29 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:4-9	30 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:10-14	31 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:15-18	Apr 1 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:19-22	2 <i>Nehemiah</i> 13:23-31	3 <i>Read and Reflect***</i>
Nehemiah Week 13						

Reflect on God's Word

What does this passage reveal about God and his desire for his people? What general observations can be made about Nehemiah, the people of Israel, or human nature in general? How do I react to this passage in full honesty, deep within? What is the Holy Spirit saying to me?

Reflect on My Life in Prayer

How is my life touched by this passage? How am I comforted, challenged, or convicted? How is God inviting me to renew my vision of who he is and who I am as his child, a part of God's community (the body of Christ), and his servant in the world? What truth, insight, or promise is God inviting me to take from the passage to keep ruminating on for the rest of this day or week or even longer?

Respond in Action: What is God inviting me to do to apply this week's passage to live into a greater commitment to the person, body, and work of Christ in the world (e.g., worship, confess, go in a new direction, pray, trust, claim his promises, act, resist evil, obey, connect with others, serve)? Take time to talk to God about what you are learning and how he is calling you to respond in your real, ordinary life and relationships.

Lectio Divina Method, which can be found on our Adult Ministry Resource Page:

<https://www.viennapres.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Lectio-Divina-Method.pdf>

*****For Sunday:** Read the entire chapter for the week and reflect on the glimpses of truth from the readings and your reflections and responses for this past week. How is God inviting you to apply this chapter and today's sermon in the coming week?