

# Overcoming Opposition

*Building a Great Church – Part 4*

Full Life Church – June 28, 2009

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1 Peter 5:8 (NIV) *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV) *In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,*

## 1. Respond to \_\_\_\_\_

*Nehemiah 4:1 (NIV) When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews,*

*Nehemiah 4:2 (NIV) ... He said, "What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble--burned as they are?"*

### 1A. Pray for \_\_\_\_\_

*Nehemiah 4:4-5 (NIV) Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. ... Do not cover up their guilt ... for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.*

### 1B. Work with \_\_\_\_\_ your heart

*Nehemiah 4:6 (NIV) So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.*

## 2. Prepare for \_\_\_\_\_

*Nehemiah 4:7-8 (NIV) But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs ... heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.*

### 2A. Be on the \_\_\_\_\_

*Nehemiah 4:9 (NIV) But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.*

### 2B. \_\_\_\_\_ the fearful

*Nehemiah 4:14 (NIV) ... "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."*

## 3. Develop a \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle

*Nehemiah 4:15 (NIV) When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to his own work.*

### 3A. \_\_\_\_\_ with others

*Nehemiah 4:16 (NIV) From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor.*

### 3B. \_\_\_\_\_ in God

*Nehemiah 4:20 (NIV) Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!"*