

Facing Intimidation
Building a Great Church – Part 6
Full Life Church – July 12, 2009
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Mark 4:17 (NIV) But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

Mark 4:19 (NIV) but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

Hebrews 12:2 (NIV) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith ...

1. Don't get _____

Nehemiah 6:1-2 (NIV) When word came to Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall ... Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: "Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono." But they were scheming to harm me;

1A. Stay _____

Nehemiah 6:3 (NIV) so I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?"

1B. Don't _____

Nehemiah 6:4 (NIV) Four times they sent me the same message, and each time I gave them the same answer.

2. Don't be _____

Nehemiah 6:9a (NIV) They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed."

2A. Ignore _____

Nehemiah 6:5-7 (NIV) Then, the fifth time, Sanballat sent ... an unsealed

letter in which was written: "It is reported among the nations--and Geshem says it is true--that you and the Jews are plotting to revolt, and therefore you are building the wall. ... Now this report will get back to the king; so come, let us confer together."

Nehemiah 6:8 (NIV) I sent him this reply: "Nothing like what you are saying is happening; you are just making it up out of your head."

2B. Pray for _____

Nehemiah 6:9b (NIV) [But I prayed,] "Now strengthen my hands."

3. Don't be _____

Nehemiah 6:10 (NIV) One day I went to the house of Shemaiah ... He said, "Let us meet in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you--by night they are coming to kill you."

3A. Know God's _____

Nehemiah 6:11-12 (NIV) But I said, "Should a man like me run away? Or should one like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go!" I realized that God had not sent him, but that he had prophesied against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

3B. Resist _____

Nehemiah 6:13 (NIV) He had been hired to intimidate me so that I would commit a sin by doing this, and then they would give me a bad name to discredit me.

4. Rely on God's _____

Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NIV) So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.