The ENCOURAGEMENT You Need



DON'T GIVE IN!

At last the wall was completed to half its height around the entire city, for the people had worked with enthusiasm.

— Nehemiah 4:6 NLT

Then the people of Judah began to complain, "The workers are getting tired, and there is so much rubble to be moved. We will never be able to build the wall by ourselves."

— Nehemiah 4:10 NLT

CAUSES FOR DISCOURAGEMENT

WEARINESS

...the workers are getting tired... — v. 10 ...the wall was completed to half height. — v. 6

FRUSTRATION

... and there was so much rubble to be moved...

DEFEAT

... we will never be able to build the wall...

— v. 10

FEAR

Meanwhile, our enemies were saying,
"Before they know what's happening,
we will swoop down on them and kill them
and end their work."

— Nehemiah 4:11 NLT

The Jews who lived near the enemy came and told us again and again, "They will come from all directions and attack us!"

— Nehemiah 4:12 NLT

HOW TO NOT GIVE IN TO DISCOURAGEMENT

I REST IN WHAT GOD IS DOING

Then I explained to the nobles and officials and all the people, "The work is very spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. When you hear the blast of the trumpet, rush to wherever it is sounding.

Then our God will fight for us!"

— Nehemiah 4:19-20 NLT

I BUILD AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS

So I placed armed guards behind the lowest parts of the wall in the exposed areas. I stationed the people to stand guard by families, armed with swords, spears, and bows.

— Nehemiah 4:13 NLT

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

— **Hebrews 10:25 NLT**

I FOCUS ON THE LORD

Then as I looked over the situation,
I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them, "Don't be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!"

— Nehemiah 4:14 NLT

THREE THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN I'M DISCOURAGED

I Remember God's Goodness in my past.

I Remember God's Closeness in my present.

I Remember God's Power for my future.

But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength.

They will soar high on wings like eagles.

They will run and not grow weary.

They will walk and not faint.

— Isaiah 40:31 NLT

I lie in the dust; revive me by your word.

-Psalm 119:25

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