



Motivating the Discouraged
Nehemiah 4:11-23



Call To The Word

Then Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is failing, and *there is* so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall." And our adversaries said, "They will neither know nor see anything, till we come into their midst and kill them and cause the work to cease."

Neh 4:10-11



Call To The Word

So it was, when the Jews who dwelt near them came, that they told us ten times, "From whatever place you turn, *they will be* upon us." Therefore I positioned *men* behind the lower parts of the wall, at the openings; and I set the people according to their families, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

Neh 4:12-13



Call To The Word

And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses." bows

Neh 4:14



Call To
The Word

And it happened, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and *that* God had brought their plot to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work.

Neh 4:15



review

“...and all of them conspired together to come *and* attack Jerusalem and create confusion. Nevertheless we made our prayer to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night.”

Neh 4:8-9



Prayer is the First Resort – not the last.

review



They were wearing out.

Condition of
the Workers

**Falling: “stumbling, tottering,
staggering”**

Neh 4:10-12



They Began to Focus on the Difficulties

Condition of
the Workers

v10b: "...there is so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall."

Neh 4:10-12

Clearing away the rubbish was not an option - it had to be done.



They Began to Focus on the Difficulties

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

Constantly dealing with the garbage in one's life and removing it can be discouraging work - but it is necessary.



They Began to Focus on the Difficulties

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

When you lose your strength, you lose your heart, you lose your vision, you lose your drive, you lose your motivation.



They Began to Fear

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

The enemy of our soul will feed you fear when you are already overworked, depleted of strength; when you're emotionally drained, despairing and discouraged.



Fear & Fatigue make you want to escape.

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

The enemy of our soul will feed you fear when you are already overworked, depleted of strength; when you're emotionally drained, despairing and discouraged.



Hold On – He’s Coming

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

***“This depression comes over me
whenever the Lord is preparing a
larger blessing for my ministry.”
- Spurgeon***



Hold On – He’s Coming

Condition of
the Workers

Neh 4:10-12

Maybe you are standing before the door of opportunity or change. You could be on the verge of the greatest years of your entire life!



Take Time Off to Regroup

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Get away to fast and pray and
surrender to God so you can be sure
you're next step will be spirit led.

Neh 4:13-23



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Neh 4:13-23



Take Time to Reorganize and Renew the Vision

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Nehemiah unified them according to families and gave each one a common goal—preservation.

Neh 4:13-23



Take Time to Remember the Lord

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Neh 4:13-23

Isa. 41:10-13

2Ti 1:7

Php 4:4-7



Take Time to Monitor and Adjust

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Neh 4:13-23

Judges 7:7



Take Time to Find a Rallying Point

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Neh 4:13-23

Rallying Point: Military term meaning a rapid regrouping for renewed action



Take Time to Find a Rallying Point

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Don't try to fight alone. The principle is still true; we need a rallying point. We need a close friend, somebody we can attach ourselves to whenever the attack comes.

Neh 4:13-23



Take Time to Serve Others

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

Neh 4:13-23

Pro 11:25 The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself.



Take Time to Serve Others

Techniques
to
Encourage
the
Discouraged

*“If I want to get water I must give water. Though that seems a strange way of self-serving I pray you try it.”
(Spurgeon)*

Neh 4:13-23



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