



People of faith do not settle for the way things are. They pursue the way things ought to be. Using the book of Nehemiah as an example, this series will explore what it means for The Hills Church to commit to a vision of the future that blesses nations and generations.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 Rick began by pointing out that *"It is amazing what people can do when they have a heart to do it."* Nehemiah's story reminds us of this. **Read Nehemiah 2:11-18.** What leadership principles did Nehemiah exhibit in this text and why are they so significant? Follow up: What impact did this have on the project being accomplished so quickly?

2 VISION AND UNITY... You must build a team to build a future. *God's purposes for our lives are too big to pursue or achieve by ourselves.* **Read Matthew 4:19-20.** Why did Jesus need a team? Follow up: How have you seen God move in a powerful way through a group of people working together to accomplish His purposes? What unforgettable memories do you have of serving God with other people?

3 A VISION THAT UNITES... utilizes everyone's gifts and willingness. **Read Nehemiah 3.** What is one big takeaway from this chapter? Follow up: Rick pointed out that *"God notices workers...and shirkers"* and those who have a *"personal agenda"* (see **Nehemiah 3:5 and 5:1-12**). How does knowing that inspire you to want to become more involved with our vision? What gifts do you have to offer? What personal ambition do you need to set aside?

4 A VISION THAT UNITES... emphasizes integrity and selflessness. *Those who cast a godly vision will lead with their life, not just with their lips.* **Read Nehemiah 5:14-19.** What about Nehemiah's

leadership stands out to you? Share an example of someone you know whose integrity made their leadership more powerful.

5 A VISION THAT UNITES... recognizes that blessing others is the win. *Nehemiah's real goal was not rebuilding a wall but restoring a people.* Why is that so important to remember in relationship to the goals we have? Share some examples of how others will be blessed as we pursue our goals.

6 LIKE A STRONG WALL... unity protects. *Vision cannot be sustained in a community where there is no unity.* As you reflect back on Nehemiah 3 what stands out to you about how unity sustained them? **Read Acts 6:1-7.** What can we learn from the example of the early church? Follow up: Share an example of how unity has sustained us in the past.

7 LIKE A STRONG WALL... unity must be built. Rick closed by reminding us, *"It was up to Jesus to purchase our unity. It is up to us to keep it."* Why is that so important to remember (see **John 17:23**) and what can we do to maintain unity in our church?

As you close, spend some time praying together with this vision in mind. You can find a digital copy of the Nations & Generations Prayer Guide here: nationsandgenerations.org/prayerguide

