BIBLE STUDY
at home
LEARN. GROW. BECOME.
GOD'S WAY WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH

"Staying the Course: Keep Building"

Time: 20 Minutes

Opening Thought

Starting something can be exciting, but continuing when we are tired, distracted, or discouraged requires perseverance. Staying the course means remaining faithful to what God has called us to do, even when progress feels slow or opposition comes.

Nehemiah's story reminds us that we can acknowledge the challenges before us and still keep working. Our confidence rests in God, who strengthens us to continue.

Key Scripture

Read: Nehemiah 6:1–9.

Key verse—Nehemiah 6:3 (KJV): "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down."

Summary

Nehemiah was leading the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall. When the work was almost completed, his enemies repeatedly invited him to meet with them away from the city. Their intention was to harm him and interrupt the work.

Nehemiah recognized the danger and refused to leave his assignment. When invitations failed, they used accusations and threats to scare him. Instead of allowing fear to stop him, Nehemiah prayed, **"Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands"** (Nehemiah 6:9, KJV).

The wall was completed in fifty-two days (Nehemiah 6:15). Nehemiah's response shows us the value of discernment, steady obedience, and dependence on God.

Think & Discuss

1. Remember why you started.
Nehemiah understood the purpose of the work. That clarity helped him decide what deserved his attention. When we become discouraged, remembering our purpose can help us take the next faithful step.

Discuss: What responsibility or commitment do you need to remain faithful to right now? Why does it matter?

2. Recognize what pulls you off course.
The invitations sounded like opportunities for conversation, but they would have drawn Nehemiah away from his work. Distractions are not always obvious. They may come through unnecessary conflict, comparison, fear, or taking on more than we can carry. Staying focused requires discernment; it also leaves room for needed rest and wise adjustments.

Discuss: What most often interrupts your progress? What boundary could help you protect your focus?

3. Ask God for strength to continue.
Nehemiah did not pretend the threats were harmless. He recognized their purpose and prayed for strength. We can bring our weariness and uncertainty to God while continuing to act in obedience. Sometimes perseverance looks like one small step taken on a difficult day.

Discuss: Where do you need God to strengthen your hands? What would one faithful step look like this week?

To Do & Takeaway

This week, choose one area in which you need to stay the course.

Write down:

- **My commitment:** What am I working toward or remaining faithful to?
- **My distraction:** What is pulling my attention away?
- **My next step:** What specific action will I take this week?

Keep your answers somewhere visible. Each day, pray: **"Lord, strengthen my hands and help me remain faithful."** At the end of the week, reflect on the steps you took and what helped you continue.

Takeaway: *You do not have to see the entire outcome to take the next faithful step. Remember your purpose, guard your focus, and trust God for the strength to continue.*

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus, thank You for the work You have entrusted to us. When we become tired or discouraged, strengthen our hands. Give us discernment to recognize distractions and wisdom to make the adjustments we need. Help us remain faithful, one step at a time, trusting You with the outcome. **In Jesus' name, Amen.**

***Consider Sowing Seed**: May your seed be planted in good soil and bring forth a bountiful harvest in due season.