



## **Raise the Roof: Rebuilding Lives | Discussion Questions**

### **SERMON RECAP**

Have you ever felt like your life needs a complete rebuild? Drawing from an ancient story of restoration, Mike Breau shared how one ordinary man's courage to face reality sparked an extraordinary transformation. Through the inspiring account of Nehemiah, we discover timeless leadership principles for rebuilding broken walls and broken lives. Mike weaved personal stories, including his granddaughter's touching wedding, with powerful insights about facing truth, carrying vision, and working together for God's purposes. Whether you're feeling stuck or sensing a call to lead, the message revealed how authentic leadership and humble dependence on God can raise the roof on what's possible.

### **GET STARTED**

- **Whether as a kid or adult, have you ever built something you were proud of? If so, share a story.**

### **TAKE IT IN**

- **What encouraged and/or challenged you from the message this week? Why?**

### **TALK IT OVER**

**Read Nehemiah 1:1-4; 2:1-6**

- Nehemiah demonstrates that leadership, at its most basic, is simply influence. In the sermon Mike reinforced that we all influence those around us: our kids, friends, coworkers, and classmates. **Think about your daily interactions, what kind of influence are you currently having on the people around you, whether intentionally or unintentionally? How can viewing leadership this way change how we see our own ability to make a difference?**
- Nehemiah writes that when he heard about Jerusalem's condition, he sat down and wept, and for days he mourned, fasted, and prayed to God. **Why is it important for leaders to be emotionally invested in the challenges they're trying to address? What situations or challenges in your community or church move you emotionally, and how might God be calling you to respond to them?**

## Read Nehemiah 6:15-16 & 1 Peter 4:10-11

- Nehemiah accomplished in 52 days what others said couldn't be done. He organized people with different skills: carpenters, stonemasons, iron workers, farmers, singers, grandmas, kids, and whole families giving each person ownership of different projects. **How could you better utilize the diverse gifts and abilities of others in your own leadership responsibilities? How can you better use your gifts to serve others?**
- Nehemiah wrote that their enemies realized that this work had been done with the help of God. God is regularly working and present in our lives, but many times we don't give Him the credit. **In what areas of your life might you need to be more intentional about giving God credit for successes and achievements?**
- Nehemiah's ultimate goal wasn't just rebuilding walls, but helping people come home to God. **How does this perspective change the way we should approach serving others and the role of our church? This season, how can you help others experience the joy and peace of returning to a relationship with God?**

## **LIVE IT OUT**

Where do we go from here? **Start by conducting an honest "wall inspection" of your own life.** Examine areas such as finances, family, addiction, and faith to initiate the process of rebuilding and healing. This introspection is crucial for understanding the realities you face and setting the stage for transformation. **Next, pray specifically and persistently,** inviting God into your rebuilding process and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide your actions and decisions. Through prayer, you seek wisdom and find strength to navigate the challenges ahead. **Finally, identify one bold action you need to take,** and courageously pursue it. This action could be seeking help, pursuing counseling, offering forgiveness and the list could go on/. This step requires faith and determination, trusting that God will empower you to make the necessary changes for a renewed and restored life.

## **MEMORIZE**

*"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."*

**Nehemiah 6:16**

## **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, grant me the courage to face the realities in my life with honesty and humility, acknowledging where I need Your guidance and strength. Help me to pray persistently and invite Your Holy Spirit to lead me in the rebuilding process, trusting in Your wisdom and timing. Empower me to take bold actions that align with Your will, so that I may live a life that reflects Your love and brings glory to Your name. Amen.