

BEFORE THE REBUILD

NEHEMIAH 1:1-4

- WHO** Nehemiah, a Jewish cupbearer to King Artaxerxes
- WHEN** 445-444 BC, after the first and second waves of exiles return to Jerusalem
- WHERE** From Susa of Persia, capital of the then-known world, to Jerusalem
- WHAT** To rebuild the walls of Jerusalem that had been destroyed 141 years prior

REBUILDING can begin when ...

I. God's people align their identity with their primary _____.

The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. vv. 1-2

REBUILD your _____ on being a Christian first and foremost.

II. God's people recognize _____ that cause others harm.

They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." v. 3

REBUILD your _____ for others who are vulnerable and in distress.

BIBLICAL REASONS why God's people strive to protect the vulnerable life of the unborn

GOD has a purpose for every life that begins at conception. (Ps 139:13-16)

GOD creates every person in His image. (Gen 1:26-27)

GOD explicitly condemns murder. (Ex 20:13)

GOD punishes those who do not protect life. (Ex 21:22-23)

III. God's people are moved to engage the _____ of prayer.

When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. v. 4

REBUILD your commitment to the _____ of prayer.

REBUILDING
A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

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HOME GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read Nehemiah 1:1-4. Why was this news so upsetting to Nehemiah?
2. What were Nehemiah's first actions after weeping? Why is it so crucial that we follow his example in everything we do?
3. In what ways are Nehemiah's situation and the times he lived in similar to our lives as Christians today? Why does it not really matter where we live or what times we live in, when our citizenship is not of this world (Phil 3:20-21)?
4. Why is our commitment to protecting the lives of the unborn so important in God's economy? Why do we focus on this topic every year, and what does it have to do with building God's kingdom?
5. Explain why our allegiance to Christ must come before any other allegiance we may have. How do we know when an allegiance other than to Christ has taken up first place, and what should we do about it?
6. Do you need to rebuild a commitment to prayer in your life? What specific areas need the most prayer, and how can you refocus on your relationship with God through prayer over the next month, and even beginning right now?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

FOCUSED ON GROWTH IN 2021? For info on this winter's Bible studies, classes and other ways to grow spiritually, text "CCBCGrow" to 94090. We'll send you more info right away.

LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY IN 2021? WE'RE HERE TO HELP. Really, there's no better time than right now to join a home group! Just go to www.ccbcfamily.org/homegroups this week and answer a few questions. We'll do the rest to find you a group of Christ Chapelites your age and in your season of life. Whether you'd prefer in person or online, we'll help you get the community you've been waiting for.

A NEW CLASS, GROWING STRONG, STARTS TONIGHT ONLINE. If you've decided to make reading the Bible, more prayer or memorizing Scripture a goal for the year, come join us for the online Growing Strong class. Led by Associate Life Stage Pastor Andy Bowen, the class will meet at 8 p.m. Sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events and we'll get you the book that goes with the class.

SIGN UP FOR WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE EVENT, RESILIENT & RENEWED. Ladies, join us for a virtual gathering and honest conversation on Tuesday, Jan. 26. We'll be talking about how God fuels resilience, what makes godly perseverance unique and how we can move from discouraged to renewed as we start 2021. Learn more about the event and sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.



SIGN UP FOR A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE IN A COVID WORLD. If you'd like to learn more about Christ Chapel's commitment to life issues, join our Local Outreach

Director Lance Cashion for a virtual gathering on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. He'll be talking how the Church can articulate a clear vision for all human life, what COVID has revealed about our culture, and how we can restore a culture where life is promoted and protected. Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/events or scan the QR code to sign up for access to the conversation.

PARENTS, REGISTER FOR THE TOPICS IN PARENTING CONFERENCE. On Saturday, Jan. 30, we are bringing together experts and important conversations to help your family flourish. If you are anywhere between the cradle and college seasons of parenthood, these topics—which include helping your child through anxiety, building a family mission, addressing pornography and keeping margin in your family life—are for you. You can attend at the Fort Worth Campus or online. Learn more and sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

JOIN A MEN'S OR WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY. Knowing Jesus changes everything. That's why Band of Brothers and Women in the Word are studying Jesus in the Gospel of John this winter. Learn more about the studies and sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—just text "CCBCFW" to 77977 to get started.