



HANOVERDALE CHURCH

Nehemiah

**Serving God by Overcoming
Discouragement from Within**

DEVOTIONALS FOR THE WEEK OF:

February 15, 2026

This week we dig more deeply into how to overcome discouragement in life. When others around you complain, how do you avoid getting sucked into their vortex of negativity?

Monday: Nehemiah 4:10a ; Genesis-29:35; Genesis 49:8-10

What group of people are mentioned in Nehemiah 4:10? Who are they? Who was Judah in the lineage of Israel? What set him apart from the other eleven brothers? What did his father say to him in his final blessing? Why were his three older brothers cursed rather than blessed? Who descended from the line of Judah that sets him apart from his brothers? If they are royalty, should they have been discouraged? As a follower of Christ, you are of the family of royalty as well. Today, ask God to build you up rather than wallow in your discouragement.

Tuesday: Nehemiah 4:10b; 1 John 1:9

Why were the people of Judah so discouraged? Where were their eyes focussed? Their strength, it says, “was giving out”. The original Hebrew language says that they were ‘tottering, stumbling, nearly falling.’ Why was that? Why was there rubble laying around while the building was occurring? Perhaps they should have done more prep work and cleared away the rubble first. Is there rubble of guilt, failure or sin in your life stopping you from being spiritually steady on your feet? Turn it over to Jesus and ask him to deal with the rubble. What does 1 John 1:9 say that He will do? Claim that promise today.

Wednesday: Nehemiah 4:6; 10c; Hebrews 12:1

When did their fatigue set in? Why do you think the half-way mark of completing a project is the hardest time? They went from ‘all in’ to ‘we can’t complete the wall’. What does Hebrews say to do when you are hindered and entangled by sin? What is tripping you up right now. What does this verse say to do? Now stand up and keep running your spiritual race.

Thursday: Nehemiah 10-12; Joshua 15:1-12; Genesis 49:10

Where were the people of Judah living? What makes his placement surrounding Jerusalem the perfect placement for this royal tribe? The 10 tribes in the North eventually left God and were disbursed. But Judah (and Benjamin) were in the South and maintained their commitment to the Lord. So for them to be in the area surrounding ruined Jerusalem makes sense. But who else was there? Why was it a problem for their neighbors to be Tobiah and the other Arabic peoples? What were the enemies of God promising to do? Were the Judahites justified in their fears? What did those living in the midst tell the workers to do? Was that the right advice? Go back to Nehemiah's response to threats and insults from ch. 3:4-5. Are you feeling threatened by those with whom you disagree? Keep your eyes on the Lord.

Friday: Nehemiah 4:13; Luke 4:1-13

What did Nehemiah do when the heat of attack ramped up? Why did he change up the building plan? What was different about these guards from when they were building? Before there was just one guard. How many were reassigned to guard duty? Do you feel that the enemy is attacking you? What did Jesus do when He was tempted? What is your typical response to intense temptation? Don't try to defend yourself alone. Find others with whom you can take your stand. People who will not belittle or judge you but stand beside you and encourage you .

Saturday: Nehemiah 4:14

How did Nehemiah rally a nearly defeated crew of workers? How did he describe the Lord? What do those descriptors mean to you? Why was he pointing to God for their success? The success to any task relies on the Lord being in charge. What did Nehemiah use as an anchor for staying at the task at hand? Why would family be a good reason to stick with a difficult task? Today, pray a hedge of protection around your family.