



# HANOVERDALE CHURCH

## Nehemiah

### Serving God by Overcoming Adversity

#### DEVOTIONALS FOR THE WEEK OF:

February 8, 2026

This week's sermon was about dealing with discouragement from adversity. God sometimes allows adversity to come from the outside. Adversity tests whether we will turn tail and run or stand up to life's challenges as people of faith. This week we dig deeper as we look to see how outside adversity draws us contentedly closer to the Lord.

#### **Monday: Nehemiah 4:6; Timothy 6:3-6**

What creates contentment in a person rather than discouragement? One dictionary defines *content* as the state of being "*happy and satisfied with your life, satisfied and willing to accept a situation, and not wanting anything more or better.*" Should Nehemiah and company been discouraged or content? Are you a contented or a discouraged person? What do you want that you don't have that would make you happy? What does it mean that godliness and contentment go hand in hand? Why is adversity sometimes good for your soul? Where do you tend to turn when adversity rings out loud and clear? Why should you not run away from adversity? Why is adversity a greater test of character than poverty? Today, admit to God your discouragement and ask God to turn it to contentment, simply because you are His child.

#### **Tuesday: 1 Peter 2:23; Philippians 2:5-7**

Was Jesus persecuted? What was His attitude when persecution came? Who did He turn to when adversity came? Where do you turn when adversity comes? Why is God a good choice to turn when adversity arrives? What is it that you are struggling with today? What does it mean to you if you give it to God? Today, give your discouragement to God.

#### **Wednesday: Nehemiah 4:9; Matthew 26:41**

Did Nehemiah do anything else than pray? Why did he also post a guard? What does that tell you about our role working with God? Should we just stick our heads in the sand and declare that God has already predetermined an outcome? Why pray? What does it mean to also watch? Today, do not lose your spiritual focus when temptation comes knocking. Stay vigilant to what God is doing.

**Thursday: Ephesians 6:11-12**

When you are watching out for the adversary, what else should you be doing? What do the different pieces of armor mean and why should putting them on help you when under attack from the enemy? Is there a piece of armor you are missing in your arsenal? How might that affect your ability to stand against the tempter's snares?

**Friday: Romans 8:26; 1 Corinthians 16:13-14**

When the temptation to give up is strong, who will come alongside you to help you? When you aren't sure what to do or how to pray, what does God do on your behalf? It is important to never forget that you are not alone in your struggles. Why does the Holy Spirit pray for you? What are you wrestling with today that you can stand back and let God be God on your behalf?

**Saturday: Matthew 6:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13**

What is so remarkable about the Lord's prayer? Who do we look to for our direction and power over temptation? What does God promise to do when we are confronted by evil? Notice that it does not say that temptation does not happen. But when it does, who is there to guide you away from it? Does a Christian have to succumb to sin? Why is there a way of escape? Today, lay hold of that promise.