



MESSAGE TWO: A TEAM BORN OF VISION

Pastor Mike Chapman

Nehemiah was a difference maker. His name is in the Bible because he saw a need that touched him deeply. His burden drove him to prayer which in turn moved him to action.

The walls of the city had lay in ruins for over 140 years. The task was great, but Nehemiah was confident that God was with him and that confidence and vision called together a team.

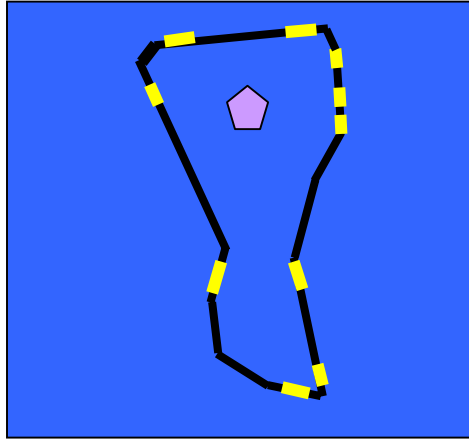
For a reference point we will focus on the events of Nehemiah 2:7-4:7

DIFFERENCE MAKERS DEFINE REALITY

The first task of a leader is to **define reality**.

You cannot lead if you don't know where you are and where you are going.

Nehemiah did not declare his intentions until he had inspected the condition of the walls.



A broken down wall means there is no **demarcation**.

The line between “the world” and the church has all but disappeared.

1 John 2:15-16, *Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.* (NLT)

2 Timothy 3:1-5 is a shocking picture of the church when the wall is gone.

He cast a bold vision, “Come let’s build the wall of Jerusalem so we will no longer be a disgrace.”

Nehemiah responds to his **opposition**.

“The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding.”

DIFFERENCE MAKERS INSPIRE A TEAM

The people of Jerusalem were **motivated** and threw themselves into the work of rebuilding.

Nehemiah 4:6, *The people worked with all their heart.*

The "**want to**" must precede the "**how to.**"

Three interesting things about the people who worked:

They had **names**.

They had **jobs**.

They had **families**.

They worked **with** their families and **for** their families.

Nehemiah 4:14, *Fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes. (NIV)*