

## Small Group Fellowships | September 28, 2003

**40 Days of Prayer and Purpose start next week!** If you are a Facilitator and missed the training yesterday, contact us right away! We need to get you the curriculum you will need to facilitate discussion over the next few weeks! If you have any new leaders in your group that missed the training, please contact [melissak@therocksandiego.org](mailto:melissak@therocksandiego.org) right away!

**Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.** (Romans 12:15) Our Children's Ministry Director, Carla Clements, went home to be with the Lord this past Friday. Funeral services will be this Sunday, October 5, at 12:30 in the Sanctuary. A potluck downstairs in the courtyard will follow. We would love to bless her friends and family during the reception, so please contact [melissak@therocksandiego.org](mailto:melissak@therocksandiego.org) to sign up to bring a dish.

### **Title: Rise Up and Build Part 3, Teamwork Makes the Dream Work**

**MEMORY VERSE:** So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven. **Nehemiah 1:4**

### **SERMON REFLECTIONS**

1. As we prepare to launch our 40 Days of Purpose groups next week, spend some time discussing and praying over the following questions:
  - a. They worked for a common **purpose**. (Exodus 9:16, Psalm 20:4, Ecclesiastes 3:1) What is the purpose of np3?
  - b. They were ordinary **people**. Define ordinary. Is that you?
  - c. They worked with extraordinary **passion**. Define passion (Galatians 5:24). What are you passionate about?
  - d. They were willing to pay the **price**. What price are you willing to pay for the legacy you will leave behind?
  - e. They went beyond their own **proficiency**. What is proficiency? What are you doing to grow beyond your current proficiency?
  - f. They accepted their **portion** of the assignment. What are you doing to seek out what your portion of np3?

### **Nehemiah 3**

1. Who was Eliashib? He started strong, but how did he finish? (Nehemiah 13:4-9)
2. You should be reading chapter 3 of Nehemiah this week. Share some characteristics of the wall builders. Which characteristics would you like to emulate? Which ones would you avoid?
3. What is troubling about verse 5?
4. God uses all kinds of people. As you study this chapter, list the different types of people God used.
5. Verse 16 refers to the House of the Mighty. Who do you think dwelt there? (2 Samuel 23:8)
6. What was noteworthy of Baroch? (verse 20)
7. How many gates are mentioned in chapter 3?
8. What is the significance of the Sheep Gate? Why do you think the Holy Spirit led Nehemiah to start and end at this gate?
9. What two gates have the most messianic implications?
10. Which gate leads to Golgotha?

## **NP3 40 days of PRAYER and P.O.R.P.O.S.E** **September 29-October 5**

As you prepare your heart for the 40 days, use this prayer guide each day to help focus your prayers this week.

### **Day 1 (Monday, September 29, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- That we will dedicate ourselves to prayer for the np3 40 days of Prayer and Purpose. Get us spiritually ready for what You want to do. We know that without Your power, we will labor in vain. Encourage us to saturate these important 40 days in prayer.
- For Pastor Miles as he leads us. We also pray that Your protection will surround his family and him. We ask You to fill him with Your Spirit to overflowing (Eph 5:18) and to strengthen him.

### **Day 2 (Tuesday, September 30, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- For the Campaign Director, Curt Clause, and other np3 Teams, that they will complete their work for Your glory. I pray that they will honor You in all they do and say; that they will experience Your grace and favor as they serve You. Give them wisdom and strength as they give direction for this np3 Campaign for our church.
- That we would authentically hunger for spiritual transformation in our church and for lasting kingdom fruit in our community.

### **Day 3 (Wednesday, October 1, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- For our spiritual growth, that we will deepen our faith as we learn to live out Your five purposes: worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and mission. Also for people to start praying over what God desires them to give over an above their tithe.
- That everyone in our congregation will join a Prayer and Purpose small group.

### **Day 4 (Thursday, October 2, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- Prepare the leaders for each group; that they will take the time each week to be prepared and 'prayed up'.
- That each person who is participating will commit to reading *The Purpose Driven Life* daily for 40 days, memorize a Bible verse, and attend church each week.

### **Day 5 (Friday, September 3, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- For the seven Sunday services during the 40-days and the impact they will have on people.
- Define people's vision and gifts. Call more workers to service. Give more people a chance to make a difference by using their skills and gifts. If people are not presently tithing, what do they need to put in order to do so.

### **Day 6 (Saturday, October 4, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- For our Week of Prayer to transform people's lives (Nehemiah 9:1-3). That Celebration Sunday will truly reflect Your accomplished will within the Rock body (Nehemiah 12:27-30).
- That through the outpouring of Your grace, people would commit their lives to Your Son, Jesus Christ, who gives us purpose. Use this 40 days to help our church reach out to our community more effectively with the Good News.

### **Day 7 (Sunday, October 5, 2003)**

God, I pray...

- As the 40 days begins, that every person in the Rock body would be open and receptive to the preaching of the book of Nehemiah and *The Purpose Driven Life*, and that they would commit to living out the five purposes for which they were created.
- That we would be excited about the difference prayer can make and that prayer would permeate our lives during the next 40 days.

**"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:11**