

**October 12, 2003**

**Who are you?** If your group has not submitted a roster, please do so right away! Also, we would love to know how God is moving in your life through this study. Email us: [40Days@therocksandiego.org](mailto:40Days@therocksandiego.org).

## **Title: Rise Up and Build Part 5, Nehemiah Chapter 5**

**MEMORY VERSE:** *And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* Mark 12:30

### **Nehemiah 5**

1. When others see you, they should see the excitement and hope you have as a Christian. What do others see when they look at you? Are you bringing people back into bondage of sin by tearing them down and pointing out faults, or are you encouraging and building them up?
2. Our agenda should be to encourage one another with an expectation of answered prayer. What is your prayer?
3. Pastor Miles mentioned that he wouldn't ask anyone to do anything with np3 that he is not willing to do himself. How are you leading by example? At the end of the day, is verse 19 your prayer to God?

### **Purpose Driven Life** – Week One: “What on Earth am I Here for?”

1. Read Ecclesiastes 1:1-15. What are three consequences of not knowing your purpose in life?
2. Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that God “has set eternity in the hearts of men.” What do you think that verse means? What are some practical ways we can live life here on earth in preparation for life in eternity?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 9:1-6 and 12:13,14. What conclusion did Solomon reach at the end of his life?
4. As Paul neared the end of his life, what was his charge to Timothy which reflected what he had learned from his life in 2 Timothy 4:1-5?
5. According to 2 Timothy 4:6-8, what was Paul's conclusion about his life as he looked back and then forward to his future?
6. What do you learn from Solomon and Paul that could help you in your life?

### **Prayer Time**

Spend some time in prayer for the upcoming weeks of this study. In addition to the items in the prayer booklet, be sure to pray for the community meetings taking place this week in Point Loma and Serra Mesa.

## **Understanding of Purposes: October 13-17**

**Scripture Reflection:** Read Nehemiah 2

*“And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ tombs, that I may rebuild it.”* Nehemiah 2:5

“If you have so much business to attend to that you have no time to pray, depend upon it, you have more business on hand than God ever intended you should have.” D.L. Moody

**Sacrifice:** What is obstructing you from hearing God’s purpose? Consider something you should stop doing as well as reflect upon something you should start doing.

**God, who gives us meaning and purpose in our lives, we pray...**

- That our praise and worship will rise as a sweet fragrance, which will glorify God.
- For God’s insight to be revealed to each person as to how he or she can help others draw closer to His perfect understanding.
- For the truth to be put into practice that “every ministry is important,” whether visible or behind the scenes, and that God would draw each person to the place He would have him or her serve.
- That our church will be inspired to work diligently in reaching out to our community with the Good News.
- That as members of the church, we would be committed to living out God’s purposes for our lives.

## **Results: October 13-17**

**Scripture Reflection:** Read Nehemiah 6:15-19

*“When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.”* Nehemiah 6:16

“The most holy practice, the nearest to daily life, and the most essential for the spiritual life, is the practice of the presence of God, that is to find joy in his divine company and to make it a habit of life, speaking humbly and conversing lovingly with him at all times, every moment, without rule or restriction, above all at times of temptation, distress, dryness, and revulsion, and even of faithlessness and sin.” Brother Lawrence

**Sacrifice:** In addition to reading *The Purpose Driven Life*, take fifteen minutes every day to pray over this list.

**God, the immortal, loving, and Holy One, we pray...**

- That everyone’s involvement in the np3 40 days of Prayer and Purpose, will inspire a stronger commitment from each person to move from a self-focused life to a God-focused life.
- For lasting, eternal fruit in transformed lives.
- That the Holy Spirit will confirm (in each believer) His power and ability to transform us from within.
- That a deeper desire to worship and magnify Him will arise in our church.
- That each person’s life will be enriched through a small group experience.
- That the Holy Spirit will encourage many to become committed to our church family, tithe and their relationship with God.
- That every person involved will be refreshed, renewed, and revitalized in the ministry to which He has called us.
- That our congregation will discover and use their spiritual gifts and abilities for His eternal purposes.