

Connect Group Discussion Guide *Series: Rebuild for Revival*

Week 4 – Rebuild the Gates Part 2

GOAL: This Week's discussion should focus on the last 4 gates Pastor Kyle discussed out of Nehemiah and how those relate to "gateways" we need to enter in through our lives.

DISCUSSION STARTER: Ask everyone how their week was and for them to share anything God has laid on their heart/doing in their life/anything that stood out in this message.

GROUP ACTIVITY: Read Ephesians 5:26-32 (have different people read different verses). Discuss what it means for the church and us as individuals to be the bride of Christ. What does it mean to be united as one with Christ? Pastor Kyle mentioned "too many of us date God instead of marrying Him" – what does that mean? What are examples of dating God?

DISCUSSION:

1. Point #1 "Stand on Solid Ground" dealt with the Water Gate (Nehemiah 3:26). Discuss what this gate means and why we should spend more time in the Word of God.
2. Read Isaiah 40:6-8 – Why do we tend to care so much about opinion of man vs the Word of God which is His thoughts expressed on a page. Is there a balance between the two? Discuss.
3. Point #2 "Stand on God's ways" dealt with the Horse Gate (Nehemiah 3:28). Discuss the meaning of this gate. What was significant about horses? Isaiah 31:1 tells us sorrow waits those who look to/depend on their horses and chariots. What are the horses/chariots we have learned to depend on? Give examples. What does it look like to depend on God as your horse/chariot?
4. Read 2 Timothy 2:3-4 – What affairs of civilian life try to get us focused off of God. How do we deal with these affairs of the world without getting tied up in them? How does this relate to 2 Timothy 2:11?
5. Point #3 "Stand on God's Promise" dealt with the East Gate (Nehemiah 3:29). Discuss the meaning of this gate. 1 John 2:28 tells us to "remain/abide" in fellowship with Christ. Talk about how you do that well and how you can do better. What are your strong points? What are your weak points?
6. Point #4 "Stand on Accountability" dealt with the Inspection Gate (Nehemiah 3:31). Discuss the meaning of this gate. Read 2 Corinthians 5:9-10 - with the promise of judgment, what does that mean for us now? How should we respond to that? Have you been kept accountable in your service to God's people? How can you get better at this? Why bother? What is the benefit?

CLOSING: In Nehemiah 3:32 we see that we come full circle back to the Sheep Gate- that it all begins and ends with Jesus. Let's be reminded that life is all about Him and what He wants to do in and through us!

PRAY: Take Prayer Requests and have someone post them to the Connect Group FB Wall with the number of people that came to group and write down the names as well.