

# Connect Group Discussion Guide      *Series: Rebuild for Revival*

## Week 7 – Resisting the Schemes of the Enemy

**GOAL:** This Week's discussion should focus on how to resist Satan when he comes against us in the specific schemes discussed (deception, rumors, intimidation, desire to rest)

**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:** Have a couple people read 1 Peter 5:6-9. Discuss what it means to humble yourselves under God's power and give your worries to him. He still tells us to watch out for the enemy. How can we do this without worrying? Why do it at all?

### DISCUSSION:

1. We read in **Nehemiah 6:1-2** that the enemy was trying to deceive Nehemiah with a seemingly good invitation. Point #1 was "Resist Deception". How can we tell if an invitation is a deception of the enemy or a God appointed invitation? Refer to **1 John 4:1-3** and **Acts 19:13-16**.
2. How do you respond to deception? Refer to Nehemiah 6:3-4. Have you every had the enemy try to distract you from your purpose? Go around the room and ask people to identify the purpose God has for their life and how Satan may try to throw them off course, or maybe a time where deception tried to derail them.
3. Point #2 was "Resist Rumors". Have you ever dealt with rumors that have affected you? In **Nehemiah 6:5-7** we see that the enemy tried to spread a rumor to entice Nehemiah to stop the work of God. How are we suppose to respond to rumors? Refer to **Nehemiah 6:8-9**. Discuss how to rebuke rumors and pray for strength.
4. How can rumors and hurt and trials work to your advantage? Read **1 Peter 4:12-13** and discuss how partnering in suffering gains access to strength we need that can only come from God.
5. Point #3 was "Resist Intimidation". Read **Nehemiah 6:10-13** and talk about how giving in to intimidation can affect us and those around us. Talk about the promise of **1 Peter 3:14**.
6. What does it mean when the enemy is trying to intimidate you? Refer to **Philippians 1:28-29**. Describe a time when the enemy tried to intimidate you and get you off course.
7. In Nehemiah 6:15-16 we see that the enemy was frightened and humiliated after God's work was finished. What does this tell you about Satan?
8. Point #4 was "Resist Deciding to Rest". We see in Nehemiah 6:17-19 that there were traders there the entire time which Nehemiah knew about. This meant he needed to keep working until God's work was complete and stay on guard. When is it time to rest in the path of God? Read **Luke 10:2** and **Matthew 11:28** – it is God who gives rest – not up to us to decide!

**CLOSING:** Close with Reading Galatians 6:9 and talk about that promise!

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