



St. James Presbyterian Church

A ministry of the Presbyterian Church USA
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SERMON STUDY & DISCUSSION OUTLINE

God's Calling & Vision Series (Nehemiah):

- #1 – If God is calling us to do something important in SJ, how do we begin?
- #2 – Why should I care about what God is calling us to do?
- #3 – How do we keep on “being” and “doing” church when things are not going great?
- #4 – How can we keep on being passionate and compassionate?

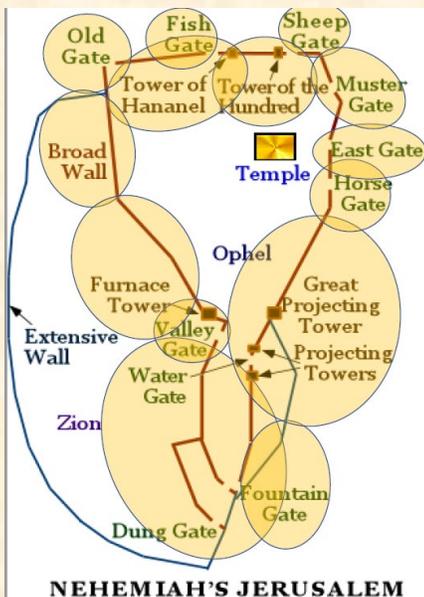
11.14.2021 – How can we keep on being passionate and compassionate?

Vision of the future for SJPC

A revitalized St. James Presbyterian Church whose leadership and congregation are Gospel-grounded, missionally active, and growing.

- **Gospel grounded** – we are a church, a group of people saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-10) who died and resurrected for the forgiveness of our sins (1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 12-19; Ephesians 1:6-7). We exist to affirm and live out God's Word, grace, and mercy in us (Colossians 1:9-14).
- **Missionally active** – we are called by God to spread the Gospel through words and deeds, with Christlike love, and to make disciples as we go in our daily life. (Philippians 1:3-6, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8)
- **Growing** – as we continue to be faithful and obedient to what God is calling us to be and to do, we will grow strong spiritually and will be blessed by God in numbers. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-25, Acts 2:38-41, 2 Peter 1:3-11)

Nehemiah and the people of Jerusalem demonstrated their passion by rebuilding the walls in 52 days!



THEY REBUILT BY...

- whoever lived near or next to the wall sections
- not leaving a gap in adjoining parts
- families worked together
- ALL residents in Jerusalem regardless of their position

Remarkable as their infrastructure accomplishment was, a serious human problem came up.

In Nehemiah 5:1-13, what was the problem?

While Nehemiah showed managerial and motivational skills in rebuilding the walls, what did he lead and teach the people how to solve their human problems?

Nehemiah commended the people for their passion in the physical rebuilding. What was the other equally important lesson he taught them?

Nehemiah “walked the talk.” What did he tell them by way of demonstrating godly example?

<u>Being passionate</u>		<u>Being compassionate</u>
Know and do what God calls you for	➤	Learn from the past, do what is right
Not only for yourself but also for others	➤	“Agape” love is beyond yourself
In doing so, you give glory to God!	➤	Trust God from Whom all blessings flow!

What are we/you rebuilding today?

When we see St. James becoming the church God calls us to be and to do ...

- Always remember this: you and your family matter to God. God loves you!
- As you remain faithful to God, you will see God’s miracles in your lives.
- God’s purpose is to show His grace, mercy, and power through you and the church.
- This is why we keep on being passionate and compassionate as Christ’s church.

What do you need to do today so you can keep on being passionate and compassionate?

As in the story of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, being passionate and compassionate involve all aspects of life. What part of your life urgently needs rebuilding?