

Title: WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE GIVING UP  
Pastor Rodney Maiden, Guest Speaker  
January 9, 2024

*“So we rebuilt the wall around Jerusalem until it had reached half its original height, because the people worked at it with all their heart. BUT THEN the other tribes in our area heard about our progress and how Jerusalem’s walls were being repaired and all the gaps were being closed. They became very angry and they all plotted together to attack Jerusalem and create some confusion to stop the progress. So we prayed to God for protection and posted 24 hour guards. But about that time, the people of Jerusalem began to complain. They said ‘We’re tired and worn out. We can’t keep up this pace! Besides that there is so much rubble and trash to be removed. We now realize that we cannot finish this wall. Meanwhile our enemies are threatening to kill us in order to stop this work! Then, those of us who lived closest to our enemies kept reporting over and over – ten times – that our enemies kept saying, ‘It doesn’t matter where you go, we’ll attack you!’” Nehemiah 4:6-12*

#### 4 SETBACKS THAT CAN CAUSE DISCOURAGEMENT

1. WHEN SOMETHING \_\_\_\_\_  
THIS CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_  
*“They said ‘We’re tired and worn out. We can’t keep up this pace!’”  
Nehemiah 4:10a*

*“Never forget how the Amalekites...attacked you when you were exhausted and weary, and they struck down those who began to lag behind...” Deuteronomy 25:18 (NLT)*

2. WHEN SOMETHING \_\_\_\_\_  
THIS CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Besides that, there is so much rubble and trash to be removed!”  
Nehemiah 4:10b*

*“Come, Lord, and show me your mercy, for I feel helpless, overwhelmed, and in deep distress.” Psalm 25:16 (LB)*

3. WHEN I START \_\_\_\_\_  
THIS CAUSES A SENSE OF \_\_\_\_\_  
*“The people said, ‘We now realize that we cannot finish this wall.’”*

*“We will NEVER be able to finish it.” Nehemiah 4:10c*

4. WHEN THE \_\_\_\_\_  
THIS CAUSES \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Meanwhile our enemies are threatening to kill us in order to stop this work.” Nehemiah 4:11*

*“Then, those of us who lived closest to our enemies kept reporting over and over – ten times – that our enemies kept saying ‘It doesn’t matter where you go, we’ll attack you!’” Nehemiah 4:12*

WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I FEEL LIKE GIVING UP?  
Do the 3 things Nehemiah did.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“So I stationed armed guards at the most vulnerable places of the wall and assigned people by families with their swords, lances, and bows.” Nehemiah 4:13 (MSG)*

*“Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting with other believers, but we must not do that. Instead, we should keep on encouraging each other...” Hebrews 4:25*

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
*“Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the leaders and the people and said to them, ‘Don’t be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious.’”  
Nehemiah 4:14a (NLT)*

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Then I told them) “...Fight for your brothers, and your sons and your daughters, and wives and homes!” Nehemiah 4:14b (NIV)*