

CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements

Week of 9/25/22

DISCUSSION: [Nehemiah 4](#)

(Discuss the question cluster below - as much or as little as works for your group)

\*Feel free to break off into smaller groups if it helps you share more personally\*

We've begun a new series in Nehemiah called *A Time to Rebuild*. Through it, we're focusing on the ways we, as individuals and as a church, can rebuild after the past 2+ years of transition and challenges. And we'll do so in confidence that God will be the one rebuilding us as we go.

- I. *This week, our passage (Neh. 4) focused on what happens when we face anger and opposition to rebuilding in our lives. We looked at: 1) New Anger; 2) New Challenges; and 3) A New Normal. The sermon helped us see that there's a healthy way to handle anger (taking it to God); that if things get worse before they get better we need to bring in more support and return to God's vision for rebuilding; and that the new normal we see through these people and through Jesus, is that Christians are called to rebuild, not just for ourselves, but for those who don't know God yet (even those who might oppose us). Let's discuss how these ideas impact our lives.*
  - A. *What connected with you from the sermon or from the passage?*
  - B. *In your experience, is anger something you've felt like you can show or something that 'good' Christians don't have in their life?*
    1. *How did this passage/sermon change your perspective on anger and what you're called to do with it?*
    2. *What's a practical situation (maybe one where you frequently get upset with something/someone) in which you could start trying to take your anger to God in prayer (like Nehemiah does) instead of just venting it on others (like Sanballat does)?*
    3. *What help from God (or others) to do that?*
  - C. *Who's someone in your life that doesn't like Christianity (or that doesn't like you being a Christian)? Or if you're not a Christian, does Christianity feel hard to tolerate for you?*
    1. *How might God be calling you to lean into 'holding the door of your heart open' to that person (as the sermon called us to)? If you're not Christian, how might God be challenging you to see how he's holding the door open for you, even if you feel deeply opposed to him right now?*
    2. *What would it look like to take one small step toward opening the door to them (or toward God holding the door open to you)?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- If you are new to CTK and interested in joining, we'll have a newcomers class called Discovering CTK on October 15th from 9a-3p. You can register at [ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk](http://ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk)
- A new Adult Education class is starting on October 16th in the social hall at 9:15a. Leonard Layne will be teaching a 6-week class on *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Please [register to attend](#) so teachers can adequately prepare and we can assess if there is a quorum to hold the class. Register by Sunday, 10/9 for a free copy of the book!