

Rebuilding the Walls of Your Life Pastor Hope Carpenter

MESSAGE SUMMARY

All of us have a God-given purpose, but the challenges of life can sometimes lead us off course. In this standalone message, Pastor Hope urges us to revisit our struggles and rebuild various aspects of our lives to fully embrace what God has called us to be. This process involves self-assessment, utilizing our gifts, overcoming obstacles, collaborating with others, and taking steps to begin anew. Are you ready to rebuild? Let's get started!

OPEN IN PRAYER

1. God's Plan and Our Focus

- God has a purpose and a plan for ALL of us, but sometimes the walls (the plan) have to be revisited.
- We will stay frustrated and not fulfill the amazing life that Jesus has for us when we focus on someone else's life or gifts.
- The Kingdom of Heaven is not a competition; we are co-laborers. God needs every gift that we possess to make up a complete picture of the body.
- Scripture Reference: Jonah 1-3 (Jonah's story of running from and returning to his calling)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Jonah's story illustrates that we can run from God's calling. In what ways have you been tempted to run from God's intended path for your life?
- 2. Who's talents can you celebrate without feeling inadequate or losing sight of your unique purpose and calling?

2. Assessing, Planning, and Overcoming Obstacles

- When you find yourself at the bottom at a crossroads in life, assessing the situation right in front of you is helpful.
- Whatever the barrier is, the Holy spirit can give you a plan for moving forward, just as he did with Nehemiah. We must use the tools we have in our hands and focus on the "next right step" in front of us. (ex. Financial strategy, rebuilding a relationship)
- If we plan to do anything for God (building or rebuilding), we must be prepared for opposition.

Scripture Reference: Proverbs 24:3-4, Nehemiah 4:13-18

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Proverbs 24:3-4 speaks of establishing a house through wisdom and planning. How does this apply to "building" or "rebuilding" our lives? What kind of wisdom do we need?
- 2. Pastor Hope emphasizes using the "tools God has given us." What are some of these tools in your life (spiritual gifts, talents, support systems),
- 3. Nehemiah faced significant opposition. What kinds of opposition might we encounter when trying to rebuild or make changes in our lives, and how can we prepare to face them with God's help?

3. Collaboration and God's Glory (10-15 minutes)

- We need each other's gifts. One person cannot do it alone!
- Running our race isn't about personal accolades; it's about giving God the glory.

Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

Discussion Questions:

- 1. 1 Corinthians 3:6-9 emphasizes the importance of teamwork and recognizing that God is the one who brings growth. How can we apply this principle to our rebuilding efforts, both individually and as a community?
- 2. Pastor Hope speaks about avoiding the "chasing of accolades." How can we ensure that our motivations for rebuilding are focused on glorifying God rather than seeking personal recognition?

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

Rebuilding our lives according to God's plan involves reassessment, planning, action, perseverance, collaboration, and a focus on giving God the glory. As we focus on the

call set before us, we must run our unique races diligently and be willing to reassess when needed. If you feel God is calling them to "rebuild" or "begin again, pick up the tools God has given you, ask the Holy Spirit for a strategy, and set actionable goals to make healthy changes.

Group Challenge:

 As a group, identify one practical way you can support each other in the process of "rebuilding" (e.g., accountability partnerships, prayer support, sharing resources).
 Plan to check in with each other in a set time frame (e.g., weekly) to encourage progress.

Personal Challenge:

• Identify one specific, actionable step you will take this week to begin the process of rebuilding in the area you identified. Write it down and commit to taking that step.

CLOSE IN PRAYER