

Sword & Trowel

Nehemiah 4:15-23 • Sr. Pastor Ted Kau

Last week: overcoming opposition to God's work, 4:1-14

We learned the methods, motives, and message of the opposition, and how to overcome in the Lord.

Reality check: Am I doing God's work? Am I discouraged? Am I the opposition? (do I gossip, divide, or put others down)?

Two truths about serving in God's Kingdom

A. My _____ reveal what I'm focused on

1. Discouraged: focused on _____, vv. 10-12
Four areas.

2. Bold & zealous: focused on _____, vv. 14-15, 20-23, Heb 11:6; Josh 1:9

We become what we see / focus on, 2 Corinthians 3:18

B. We are called to take up a trowel and sword

- to _____ what Christ has already finished and, vv. 16-18, 23
- to _____ together in community (not isolation), vv. 19-20
- with _____, vv. 21-23

For reflection, discussion, and application

- What are some ways I can focus more on God and less on troubles?
- What has God called me to build spiritually? Where am I with that?
- What slows down or prevents me from building?
- What steps am I taking to defend Christ's finished work? What sins am I mortifying? How's this coming along?

If you have an answered prayer or testimony, please email

<ted.kau@gmail.com>. We want to share your joy and give Him glory!