

# IT'S TIME FOR THE CITY TO GROW

Nehemiah II

1. When facing challenges and changes, we need to trust God's sovereignty.
2. When facing challenges and changes, may we be willing to step up and walk them out.
3. God can mightily use those who think they are insignificant and think they have nothing to offer.
4. Our position and rank on the ladder of status and hierarchy **DOES NOT MATTER.** (vv.9,17; Ecclesiastes 2:11; Matthew 16:26, 20:16; Mark 9:35, 10:43-44; 1 Corinthians 1:20,26-29; Galatians 3:28; Philippians 2:3)
5. Pray for **STRENGTH, COURAGE,** and **COMMITMENT** to walk out God's calling for me. (vv.6,8,14; Nehemiah 8:10; Psalm 46:1-2, 73:26; Isaiah 40:29; Matthew 28:20; Acts 4:29; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Ephesians 6:19)
6. There is work to be done on the **INSIDE**, and there is work to be done on the **OUTSIDE.** (vv.12,16; John 4:24; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7; 2 Corinthians 13:5; Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; Ephesians 2:21-22, 4:11-13; 1 Peter 2:5; Matthew 12:34)
7. In a world of many influencers, let's follow those who encourage us to **PRAISE** God and give **THANKS** to Him. (v.17; Psalm 1:1-4, 34:3; Proverbs 13:20, 27:17; 1 Corinthians 11:1, 5:11, 15:33; Philippians 3:17; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 13:7; 3 John 1:11)
8. God often brings the '**SECULAR**' and the '**SACRED**' together to accomplish great things. (vv.23,24; Genesis 39:4; Exodus 2:10; Esther 2:17; Nehemiah 1:11; Daniel 1:4,17; Acts 17, 18:3; John 17:14-18; Romans 12:2; 1 John 2:15; Matthew 11:19; Luke 19:10; Colossians 4:5)
9. God, help me **SETTLE WHEREVER** You have me! (vv.3,20,25-36; Proverbs 16:3; Jeremiah 17:7-8; Ecclesiastes 3:1; Matthew 6:33; 1 Corinthians 7:17,20, 12:18; Galatians 6:9; Philippians 4:11; Colossians 3:23)



## Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...**

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!  
For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit [thrivekg.org/thrive-groups](http://thrivekg.org/thrive-groups).

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, confused, or edified you?
2. We read about priests who were responsible for the work [inside] God's house, and Levites who did the outside work of the house of God (vv.11,16). In Nehemiah, the house of God was the temple. What is the temple of God today? What kind of work is there to be done 'inside' and 'outside' the house of God today?
3. Praise God for Mattaniah (v.17)! What did he do? In what ways can I and you be like Mattaniah? In what ways do we sometimes see people being/doing the 'opposite' of Mattaniah? Why is this so destructive for the Body of Christ?
4. What are some examples in Scripture where God's people actively engaged in 'the world'? What do the words 'secular' and 'sacred' mean? How can we serve to merge the 'secular' and the 'sacred' in ways that will honor God and represent/magnify Christ in the world?
5. Some lived in the city and some lived in the country, and God had a purpose and a plan for each person and family wherever they were. Why are we so often discontent with where we are (location, profession, possessions, abilities, etc.)? In what circumstances do you most wrestle with discontentment? Keeping in mind God's sovereignty, how can we 'make the most' of wherever we find ourselves right now?