



February 12, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell
Nehemiah 6:1-19 | "The Devil Is in the Distractions"

Sermon Application Review from Nehemiah 5

What *one* global cause did you adopt?

How did you individually remember others in need?

Scripture References

Nehemiah 6:1–19

Psalms 18:2, 29–32, 39

Psalms 119:97–104

James 1:5–8

Proverbs 2:1–9

Psalms 28:7–8; 29:11; 46:1

Psalms 109:1–4

Study Questions

1. When have you dealt with people spreading rumors about you? What happened? How did you work through this? How can you avoid taking yourself too seriously? What should you do if falsely accused? Read 2 Samuel 16:1–14. How can you know when to ignore opposition and when to deal with it?
2. How can you stay focused on the "better" thing instead of being distracted by a potentially "good" thing? When have you been tempted to settle for second best or good enough? How can you be confident that you are doing what God wants you to do? In what ways will this release you from trying to please others? What criteria do you use to determine whether to say "yes" or "no"? Where do you need perseverance and persistence to finish the work God has committed to you?
3. How have you been able to identify religious manipulation? In what ways are you equipped to discern and resist unbiblical counsel? Read Acts 17:11 and 1 John 4:1. How can you grow in your understanding of God's Word so you can protect yourself and others? Read 1 Timothy 4:12–16.
4. In what ways do you seek God in the midst of your trials? How can you grow in making prayer your "default" response? How are you striving to keep your eyes on the Lord and the work He has given you to do? How can Nehemiah's example guide your future responses to opposition?
5. Why does being a disciple bring about satanic opposition? How have you sensed Satan's attack in your life and ministry? How did you respond? What did you learn from these situations? How can you turn to God when the devil begins to come against you (1 Peter 5:8)?

Recommended Reading

David Noble, *Church Conflict by the Book* (BHC, 2013)

Charles Stone, *5 Ministry Killers and How to Defeat Them* (Bethany House, 2010)

Ray Pritchard, *Stealth Attack* (Moody, 2007)

Matt Perman, *How to Get Unstuck* (Zondervan, 2018)