



Week 4 - Protect Externally

Intro: What was one takeaway you had from Pastor Branden's sermon this past week?

Scripture Reading: Take some time to read through Nehemiah 4 again as a group out loud. What was significant to you now that you've heard it?

Questions:

1. Nehemiah and the builders were taunted and sneered at by Sanballat and the others when they were doing the work of building up Jerusalem's wall. When have you been ridiculed for living out your faith as a Christian? How did that affect your confidence in ministering to others?
2. What kind of opposition are you facing in your spiritual life right now? Where have you seen God's work in your life in the midst of your trials?
3. When Jesus was faced by the opposition of the people at His crucifixion, He did not respond to them with evil or hatred in mind. He instead responded with, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). When you face opposition from others, how would you respond as Christ did to His opposition?

ACTION STEP

The best way to protect externally is to fight internally. As a group, pray for those who are currently facing spiritual opposition and do it daily. Write down these prayer requests in some way (text, email, pieces of paper, etc) so that you can always go back and remember them. God hears your prayers for deliverance, and He is much more powerful than any opposition you could ever face. Praying for one another strengthens the bond between you all, and it helps you to realize that you are united in this battle for what is right.