



**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis

March 24, 2013

**re:build**

## desert breeze community church

### Nehemiah 7:1-73 “Momentum”

There's no status quo in the Christian life...you're either going forward or going back. Momentum is sustained forward progress.

#### **How to Maintain Momentum:**

Nehemiah 6:15-16

#### **1) Stay Genuinely Humble.** (James 4:6)

- It is not thinking less of myself it is thinking of myself less.
- It is the by-product of being entranced with the Greatness & Goodness of God.

#### **2) Surround Yourself with People Who Stir-up Your Appetite for God.** (Heb10:24-25)

- Faith is not just agreement with facts in the head but an appetite for God in the heart.
- Who are the people in your life that you stir up & stir you up?

Verses 3-4

#### **3) Be On your Guard against Potential Problems.**

(Pro4:23; Matt15:18)

- What dominates my thoughts, stirs my deepest feelings and moves my actions?
- Is Jesus becoming my treasure worth giving up everything for?

Verse 5 vv6-69 is the accounting of the people who built the wall. God records & remembers every step of faith we take.

#### **4) Take Regular Inventory of Your Progress.** (2Cor13:5)

- Is your reaction & recovery time decreasing?
- Are you learning to apply the truth of God specific to where your heart is most restless?

Verses 70-73 Notice the order of giving: Leaders & heads of families set the example and then the rest of the people follow.

#### **5) Continue To Make Spiritual Investments.**

(Gal6:7-9)

- Spiritual equity can make or break you in crisis.
- You will always reap what you sow, more than you sow & later than you sow.



# Growing

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- 1) Momentum swings are exciting to watch in team sports! What is the danger for a team when they've had a momentum swing in their favor and they decide to sit on their lead? How do these metaphors relate to the fact that there is no status quo in the Christian life you're either going forward or going back?
- 2) Read Nehemiah 6:15-16. Sustained forward progress begins with staying genuinely humble (James 4:6). How do you see this in Nehemiah (1:5, 2:4, 4:4, 9, 5:19, 6:9, 14)? How does being entranced with the greatness & goodness of God humble us—by not thinking less of our self but thinking of our self less?
- 3) Read Nehemiah 7:1-2. Why does Nehemiah appoint Hananiah? In maintaining momentum why is it important to surround yourself with people who stir up your appetite for God (Heb10:24-25)? Who are the people in your life that you stir up & stir you up?
- 4) Read Nehemiah 7:3-5. How is Nehemiah guarding against potential problems and how do we do that in our lives (Pro4:23; Matt15:18)? Verses 6-69 shows us that God records & remembers every step of faith we take. Why is taking inventory of your progress an important part of holding on to your gains (2Cor13:5)?
- 5) Read Nehemiah 7:70-73. How can spiritual investments (equity) not only help you with sustained forward progress but also make or break you in crisis? What are you doing to make spiritual investments in your life, family & church family? Pray.