

**Hearing from God**  
**Today's Talk: Finishing Strong**  
**Nehemiah 5-6**

***Finishing Strong means...***

- I. The unwavering courage and commitment to do what is right no matter what
  
- II. The unflinching purpose and vision to persevere and press on despite opposition

**Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:**

***For Starters:*** When have you had to dig deep and finish something strong? If you have, what has caused you to quit finishing something? Discuss some successes and regrets.

***The Basics:*** Read Nehemiah Chapter 6:15-19. Despite growing opposition, uncontrollable circumstances, and limited time and resources, how did Nehemiah lead the Israelites to complete a God-sized vision in just 52 days? What do you learn from this?

***Quick Fire Round:***

- What examples of selfishness (in your life and others) have you observed this week? Read Neh. 5:1-13. What examples of self-interest and opportunism were hindering the Jerusalem project completion?
- Read Neh. 5:14-19. How did Nehemiah respond and act toward the self-interest issue? What do you learn about how Nehemiah courageously committed to put the needs of others before his own?
- Read Zechariah 7:9-10, Matthew 22:34-40, Galatians 6:9-10, Philippians 2:4 and James 1:27. How is NMC's community hub vision primarily about putting the needs of others and the next generation before our needs?
- Read Neh. 6:1-14. How did Nehemiah's enemies attack him personally and try to discredit him? Have you experienced the same? How did Nehemiah respond to each attack and what can you learn from this?
- How did Nehemiah stay focused on his God-given purpose and vision, to persevere and press on? Be honest. What is the motivating force in your life? Read Philippians 3:12-14 and Hebrews 12:1-3. How can you press on and not quit around what matters most?

***The challenge:*** Anyone can start (a marriage, career, project, degree, race) but few finish, and fewer finish strong. What measures will you take in your life to finish strong? How can you have unwavering courage and unflinching purpose to finish strong? How can you live to put others before yourself? How can you persevere through trials?