



Part Three: Rebuilding in the Face of Opposition // August 22, 2021 // Jeff Brodie

In parts one and two, we discovered five steps to rebuilding the brokenness in your life: (1) Let what's broken break your heart; (2) Bring what's broken to God's heart; (3) Pre-decide your first move; (4) Create a specific plan and cast a bold vision; and (5) Get the right people around you. But the reality is, when rebuilding begins, resistance follows. It's inevitable. What do you do when you face opposition and things become difficult? How do you respond to pushback?

Scripture: [Nehemiah 4:1-15](#) NLT

Bottom Line: When rebuilding begins, resistance follows.

Getting Started:

1. What is your typical response toward opposition in your everyday life? Do you tend to lean into it or run away from it? How so?

Jumping In:

2. The past two weeks Jeff has encouraged us to think through areas of brokenness in our lives and then take steps toward rebuilding. Have you zeroed in on something specific? Has this been challenging? Why or why not? Share any ways you have already seen God begin to bring healing to that situation.
3. Jeff mentioned that, "God is present when people come together in faith and on mission." What is special and unique about being united "in faith and on mission"? Have you experienced this in your life? How is this our pursuit here at Connexus?

Discuss:

4. Read [Nehemiah 4:1-3](#). How do Sanballat and Tobiah attempt to discourage and derail Nehemiah's efforts to rebuild the wall? Can you think of a Sanballat or Tobiah in your life currently? Have you ever been a Sanballat or Tobiah toward someone else?
5. Jeff highlighted several types of opposition that we commonly face:
 - a. *Haters*. How would you define haters? Where do you see this type of "armchair quarterbacking" in the world around you? What is the best response to this group?
 - b. *Family/friends*. Why is it especially painful to face resistance from those closest to you? Have you been in this situation before--or even now? What happened? Ask your group members to pray for your encouragement.

- c. *Spiritual*. What do you think about the concept of Satan/the devil? Look at [Ephesians 6:12](#) and [1 Peter 5:8](#) for some further insights. Can you recall a time when you faced spiritual opposition? What tactics and resources can help you to withstand these attacks?
 - d. *Internal*. How do the Jewish people experience internal opposition in [Nehemiah 4:10](#). What other expressions of internal resistance to the rebuilding process can show up in your life?
6. Read [Nehemiah 4:4-5](#). How does Nehemiah respond to the opposition around him? Is this your default posture? Why or why not?
7. Jeff said, "Nehemiah worked like everything depended on him, and he prayed like everything depended on God." Discuss this statement. Which side of the praying-working continuum do you tend toward? Why do you suppose this is the case?
8. Read [Nehemiah 4:11-15](#). Jeff shared two principles that will help us push through the resistance to rebuilding the brokenness in us and around us:
 - a. *Remember who is fighting for you*. Nehemiah declared the Lord to be "great and glorious." What do these words indicate? Do you believe this about God? If so, what practical difference should it make as you face various difficulties in the rebuilding process?
 - b. *Remember who you are fighting for*. Whichever area of brokenness you are seeking to rebuild right now, who are the specific people on your heart? How can you keep them more at the forefront of your mind as you continue the hard work of rebuilding?

Moving Forward:

This week take time to *remember who is fighting for you* and *remember who you are fighting for*. Jot down some reflections about each of these truths, and allow them to propel you forward as you rebuild the brokenness in your life and world.