

Stand in the Breach

Ice Breaker: Which food dish reminds you most of your childhood?

Series Overview: How we can be a bridge builder for Christ in our community.

Sermon Summary:

Key Scriptures: Nehemiah 7:1-3, Psalms 24:7, Revelation 21:19-21, Nehemiah 4:20

- 1) We are called to give our time, talents and resources out of compassion and revelation, not out of obligation
- 2) We are called to be gates for our homes and for our communities
- 3) We are called to “sound our trumpet” and ask for help to fill our breaches. We are also called to help fill breaches and fill our calling in the church

Key Takeaways:

- The first half of Nehemiah focused on the crisis of the city and building the wall. The second half shifts focus from building a wall to building people
- Building people is the call of Jesus to go make disciples of men
- The key to a successful mission requires a door, gates and gate keepers.
- The gate is designed to keep the enemy out but those who are called inside
- As a gate, we can say no to things of the devil and say yes to the things of God
- Like the pearls on the 12 gates of Israel in Revelation, we are “smoothed” and groomed to grow in faith and patience in irritating situations or difficult seasons
- Everyone has breaches in their lives, God and our Christian community are designed to help fill them

Questions

- 1) What does it look like to be a gate keeper in your home? At your work?
- 2) How can we be gate keepers or breach fillers in our church?
- 3) Do you feel comfortable sounding your trumpet in times of need? If yes, share a time this impacted your life. If no, what prevents you?
- 4) Share a time when a difficult season helped shape you into the gate you are today.
- 5) In the book of Nehemiah, 174 out of 406 verses list specific name of people in the church. What does this say about each member of the church? Does this affect how you view your involvement in the church?