Nehemiah

Part 8 – Chapter 6

Reacting Wisely

* Planning harm: Round 1 (6:1-4)
	+ Walls almost complete… except the gates (6:1)
	+ The enemies hear about the progress and request a meeting (6:1-2)
	+ But their intentions were not good (6:2)
	+ Nehemiah responds \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (6:3)
	+ The enemies persist and insist and Nehemiah responds the same (6:4)
* Planning harm: Round 2 (6:5-9)
	+ The enemies change tactics (6:5). What is an open letter?
	+ The charge against Nehemiah (6:6-7)
	+ How do you respond to false accusations? (6:8-9)
	+ Where is Nehemiah’s focus? Where is his confidence? (6:9b)
* Planning harm: Round 3 (6:10-14)
	+ What do you think about Shemaiah’s request? (6:10)
	+ Nehemiah’s response (6:11)
	+ Perception and fear (6:12) How did Nehemiah know?
	+ Fear, sin, and reproach (6:13)
	+ Why does he ask God to remember his enemies? (6:14)
* Completion of the wall and the conclusion of enemies (6:15-16)
	+ The wall was completed in 52 days (6:15)
	+ The enemies lost their motivation to resist as they were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that God was at work (6:16)
* Leadership insights
	+ Godly leaders don’t react emotionally or quickly but they respond thoughtfully, carefully, and wisely (Prov 15:28)
	+ Leaders must resist foolish reactions, even when opposition is relentless and enemies aim to wear them down
	+ Leaders recognize that usually it is unwise and fruitless to defend yourself beyond a simple denial of the charge
	+ Leaders learn to pay careful attention in order to perceive what’s really going on in a situation
	+ Leaders understand the powerful motivation of fear, but they choose to respond in faith (in the Lord) and not in fear
	+ Leaders continue to trust the Lord and look to Him for strength. They are willing to take risks to keep from bringing reproach on His Name