



CHAPTER 5 VERSES 14-19

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FLOURISHING IN THE MIDST OF OPPOSITION

# Nehemiah 5:14 - 15

**14** Moreover, from the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, until his thirty-second year—twelve years—neither I nor my brothers ate the food allotted to the governor. **15** But the earlier governors—those preceding me—placed a heavy burden on the people and took forty shekels of silver from them in addition to food and wine. Their assistants also lorded it over the people. But out of reverence for God I did not act like that.



# Nehemiah 5:16 - 17

**16** Instead, I devoted myself to the work on this wall. All my men were assembled there for the work; we did not acquire any land.

**17** Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations.



# Nehemiah 5:18 - 19

**18** Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, because the demands were heavy on these people.

**19** Remember me with favor, my God, for all I have done for these people.





# Uncommon Leadership

- God-Honoring
- Sacrificial



**1. Embracing the weightiness of serving God changes our perspective on leadership.**





# Nehemiah 5:14 - 15

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# 1 Timothy 6:15b - 16

God, the Blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, who no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.



# Embracing the weightiness of serving God

- The fear of the Lord is the uncommon leader's super power.



# Embracing the weightiness of serving God

- The fear of the Lord is the uncommon leader's super power.
- The uncommon leader moves their heart God-ward and their feet forward.



# Nehemiah 4:4 - 9

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# Uncommon Leadership

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**2. Our focus is on the  
impact we can make  
not the wealth we  
can acquire.**



# Nehemiah 5:15 - 16

**15** But the earlier governors—those preceding me—**placed a heavy burden on the people and took forty shekels of silver from them in addition to food and wine... But out of reverence for God I did not act like that.**

**16** Instead, I devoted myself to the work on this wall. All my men were assembled there for the work; we did not acquire any land.





# **Common Leadership**

I exist to please  
myself so I lead  
others for my  
profit and comfort.

# **Uncommon Leadership**

I exist to honor God  
so I lead others to  
serve the common  
good and glorify God.



# **Our focus is on the impact we can make...**

Neh. 6:15 - 16

**So the wall was completed...in 52 days.** When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence because they realized that **this work had been done with the help of our God.**



# Uncommon Leadership

- God-Honoring
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**3. Our generosity is  
rooted in a genuine  
love for people.**



# Nehemiah 5:17

**17** Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, **as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations.**



# Nehemiah 5:18

**18** Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, **because the demands were heavy on these people.**



# Genuine love for people

- Love notices the condition of the people you serve.



# Genuine love for people

- Love notices the condition of the people you serve.
- Love relieves burdens, it does not add burdens.







**4. Our hope for  
reward is directed  
toward God alone.**



# Nehemiah 5:19

**19 Remember me with favor,  
my God, for all I have done  
for these people.**



# Why is it ok to ask God to bless you?

- Because God says it's ok to ask for what you want. (Matt. 7:7 - 8)



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- Because God delights in giving good gifts to his children. (Luke 12:32)



# Why is it ok to ask God to bless you?

- Because God says it's ok to ask for what you want. (Matt. 7:7 - 8)
- Because God delights in giving good gifts to his children. (Luke 12:32)
- Because asking God for your needs is a sign of humility. (Psalm 50:14 - 15)



# Jesus

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# Uncommon Leader

- God-Honoring
- Sacrificial





FLOURISHING IN THE MIDST OF OPPOSITION