FOR A REBUILDING YEAR

WEEK 3 - GROUP STUDY

God is in the business of restoration. While restoration comes through one person, Jesus, it is lived out through the Church. We are the Body of Christ, we each have a role to play, and we are called to work together.

CONNECT

• There are many reality TV shows all about remodeling or rebuilding homes. Many of these shows accomplish major renovations in a few days or weeks. **If you could remodel any area of your home, what would it be? Why?**

CONSIDER

- Watch Video Session 3: First Followers & Vision Carriers (mynorthside.com/blueprints)
- Watch Video Culture Index (mynorthside.com/blueprints)
- What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon, devotions, or video this week?

CHRIST

Fast Forward Through Nehemiah: At first glance, Nehemiah 3 isn't the most exciting chapter of the Bible--32 verses of specific names and details about people rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. But, don't miss what's happening in this chapter. Nehemiah 4:6 sums it up best: "So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart." In 52 days (Nehemiah 6:15), the people worked and restored the walls of Jerusalem. With God's help, they did the impossible together.

- Nehemiah lists a variety of people helping to rebuild the walls: the high priest, priests, people from neighboring cities, goldsmiths, perfume makers, fathers/sons, rulers, guards, merchants, and people who had sections of the walls in their backyards. What stands out to you from this list? Have you ever been a part of a group/team/community that accomplished something bigger than you could have done on your own? If so, share a story?
- Nehemiah 3:5 makes an interesting note in the midst of rebuilding the walls: "*The next* section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to

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the work under their supervisors." How does pride get in the way of serving others? How does serving others remove pride?

- We may not have to physically rebuild a wall, but we are called to build up the Church/Body of Christ. It will take a big God and a whole community to connect people to Jesus and to disciple them. Read Romans 12:3-8 and Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:11-16 as a group. What do you learn about the Church/Body of Christ? Write down your group's answers.
- These passages talk about the role or giftedness of each member of the Body of Christ. Our giftedness doesn't make us greater or less than anyone else, just uniquely different. Romans 12:3 says giftedness begins with humility. This isn't a low opinion of self, but an honest and accurate one. This self-awareness helps us understand who God has made us to be and what He has called us to do. This week, you had the opportunity to take the Culture Index survey. What did you learn or confirm about the way you are naturally wired?
- From your experience, why do you think the Pareto Principle (80% of the work/impact is accomplished by 20% of the people) is so common in large churches?
- Ephesians 4:11-16 shows us that giftedness does not equal spiritual maturity. The Body of Christ exists to build each other up into spiritual maturity. **How can our group encourage you to leverage your natural and spiritual gifts for serving in and beyond the church?**

CALLING

- **Know Your Role:** We are part of the Body of Christ, and we have a role to play in God's Kingdom (Ephesians 4:16). We have work to do. Do you know your role and your giftedness? Are you living out your role in and outside of the church?
- Serve Finder: This tool will help you find a place to use your gifts to serve others around Northside. Visit <u>rock.mynorthside.com/serve</u>.
- **Blueprints Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with the daily devotions from this study guide. Devotions can be found through Northside's App, by texting JOINGOD to 81411, or at www.mynorthside.com/*Blueprints*.
- **Memorize:** From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. **Ephesians 4:16**
- Further Study: Read Nehemiah 4-6 in preparation for Session 4.