



Sermon Outline
March 31, 2019
Pastor Bryan Myers

Culture Shock

Ezra & Nehemiah

Series objective: *To reveal that from Genesis to Revelation God's Big Story is that He wants to be with us, and He wants us to be with Him.*

Series goal: *To help us become more aware of living the "with God" life.*

The "so far so good" perspective always leaves you waiting for the other _____.

Ezra and Nehemiah provide a record of God _____ His people.

3 experiences repeated in the narrative.

1. A heart that's _____.

Ezra 1:5 - Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites—everyone whose heart God had moved—prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 1:4 - When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do. – Edward Hale

2. An effort that encounters _____.

Ezra 4:4 - Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building.

Nehemiah 4:1 - When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews...

1 Corinthians 16:9 - ...because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.

3. A God who's _____.

Ezra 3:3 - Despite their fear of the peoples around them, they built the altar on its foundation and sacrificed burnt offerings on it to the Lord, both the morning and evening sacrifices.

Ezra 6:14b - They finished building the temple according to the command of the God of Israel and the decrees of Cyrus, Darius and Artaxerxes, kings of Persia.

Nehemiah 6:15-16 - So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two 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.

God is with you and He is _____ you.

Matthew 28:19-20 - Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Romans 8:31-32 - What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all---how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Because God is with you and for you doesn't mean He will give you everything you _____ but He will give you everything you _____.

Philippians 4:19 - And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

The perspective produced by becoming more aware of the "with God" life is: "So far so _____"