

Small Group Study Guide

“O NO! to Ono”

Nehemiah 6:1-19

Pastor Mark Kilcup

Relate

Take turns in your group discussing how difficult or easy it is to distract you from a project. Is the response different when the project is assigned to you or when it is something you choose to do?

Review

Read Nehemiah 6:1-19 together.

With the end of the wall-building project in sight, Nehemiah is faced with three plots to distract and discredit him. How would you have advised Nehemiah in each situation? What would you have done?

When Nehemiah is accused of establishing himself as a king (vs 5-9), what do you observe about his response? Would you respond the same way?

In verses 10-14 we see an attempt to manipulate Nehemiah to do something that was against God’s law. How easy is it to justify going against God’s moral law?

In verses 17-19, do you think the leaders in Jerusalem are conspiring against Nehemiah, or are they trying to bring peace?

Dig

What is the value of a good reputation or an honorable name?

Consider:

Psalm 4,

Proverbs 22:1

Ecclesiastes 7:1.

Luke 12:11

Titus 1:6

The word “shama” is translated as “hear,” or “word came to.” This is the same word we find in Deuteronomy 6:4 and Revelation 4. These are calls to, “Listen up.”

-What is the report the enemy might be hearing about you?

Live

Personal evaluation: How can I respond differently or better to criticism and distraction in spiritual matters?

Share and pray for correct handling of the adversity that may be coming from the enemy.