New Life Fellowship Church
Loving God. Loving People. Making Disciples.

**Sunday Sermon Discussion Outline**
Pastor Philip Thomas, November 22, 2026
Nehemiah 6:1-19 – Dealing with Setbacks (Part 3)

Nehemiah dealt with deception and distraction with spiritual discernment. He continued the work because he was confident that the Lord would help them complete the rebuilding of the walls. No matter the setback, the outcome was never in question.

To deal with setbacks…

- We must be firmly committed to the Lord's work
- We must stand for truth without compromise
- We must be careful and disciplined to continue obeying everything the Lord has already commanded

We respond and apply the Word of God we have heard by dealing with setbacks with the Lord's strength and strategy.

May no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore, do not become partners with them; for at one time, you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. May you walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and may you discern what is pleasing to the Lord. May your love abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. (Ephesians 5:6-10, Philippians 1:9-10)

**Discussion Questions:**

- What did Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem do to try and stop Nehemiah and the Israelites from completing the rebuilding of the walls? How did Nehemiah respond to each of their ploys?
- What does it mean to be firmly committed to the Lord's work?
- How can we stand for truth without compromise?
- Why should we continue to obey everything the Lord has already commanded even as we venture into new projects?
- What is spiritual discernment? Why do we need it? How can we grow in discernment?
- Why was Nehemiah so matter-of-fact in stating that the wall was rebuilt in 52 days? What does it reveal about his faith in God? What were his expectations for the work they were doing?
- What does Nehemiah's example encourage us to do?