

Answer Key:

The moment of conflict!

- life
- misunderstandings / opinion / convictions
- emotional
- demands
- tension
- collision
- power

Nehemiah response to conflict!

- knees
- battle / planned
- afraid

Three reasons to have confidence facing conflicts:

1. adversity
 - correctly
2. walk / tribulations
3. assured / handle

Nehemiah
Rebuilding the walls of Life

Part 4

“O God we are despised, but!”

Nehemiah 4:4 NIV

"Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity."

Introductory Statement

Nehemiah chapter 4 immediately starts with a little bit of criticism which quickly escalates into a long season of opposition, and if that is not enough, a coalition is put together that comes around and begins opposing God's work and opposing God's people.

The moment of conflict!

"When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed.

Nehemiah 4:1 NIV

- Conflict is a part of _____.

●It may originate from _____, a difference of _____, or deep _____.

"He ridiculed the Jews,.... And in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said..."

Nehemiah 4:2 NIV

●A conflict is an _____ collision.

"What are those feeble Jews doing?"

Nehemiah 4:2b NIV

●It is stress caused by incompatible desires or _____.

"Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?"

Nehemiah 4:2c NIV

●The stronger the impulse, the greater the _____!
... "What they are building--if even a fox climbed up on it, he would break down their wall of stones!"

Nehemiah 4:3 NIV

●The greater the tension, the louder the _____!

"They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it."

Nehemiah 4:8 NIV

●But discord often stems from envy, pride, or hunger for _____.

"But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry."

Nehemiah 4:7 NIV

Negative responses often indicate underlying scenarios.

- Past hurt can leave a person emotionally insecure and unable to handle criticism.
- A perfectionist sets such high benchmarks that he can never live up to his own standards—then it's hard to acknowledge mistakes.
- Pride makes it hard for some people to admit when they are wrong or ask forgiveness.

Nehemiah's response to conflict!

- The way to handle life's troubles is discovered on our

_____!

Hear us, O our God, for we are despised.

Nehemiah 4:4 NIV

- In your prayer time, a _____ needs taking place between what you want voiding this conflict—and what the Lord had _____ for you—to move forward in faith.

"After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them.

Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

Nehemiah 4:4 NIV

Praying on our knees reminds us that God is the Master and we are His servants.

- When we face difficulty for honoring Christ, we do not need to be

_____!

Three reasons we, should have confidence facing conflicts:

1. We know that Jesus faced trials just as we do, and He is with us in all of our _____.

"...because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5 NIV

- Unless we respond _____ to conflict, we limit our potential to grow, because we aren't learning what the Lord is teaching.

2. Scripture tells us that when we _____ in step with Him, He allows only challenges that will strengthen, mature, and equip us. In that way, we can help others who deal with similar _____.

"But in everything and in every way we show that we truly are God's servants. We have always been patient, though we have had a lot of trouble, suffering, and hard times."

2 Corinthians 6:4 CEV

"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,"

2 Timothy 3:12 NIV

3. We are _____ that He will provide everything we need—and with God’s help, this trial will not be more than we can _____.

"God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19 ASV

"I know God won't give me anything I can't handle. I just wish he didn't trust me so much."

Mother Teresa

No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it.

1 Corinthians 10:13 Msg

God won't put more on you than you can handle!