THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP



WELCOME

IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU.

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

THIS WEEK

TOMORROW • WOMEN'S DINNER & ENCOURAGEMENT

Ladies, today is the last day to sign up for the Women's Dinner & Encouragement event tomorrow night! Join us from 6:30–8:30 PM in the THF Mall for a great evening of dinner, fellowship, and encouragement! Guest speaker Cheryl Carpenter will share an uplifting message about joy. The cost is $5 per person. Visit the THF Women Facebook page or scan the QR code in the Mall to sign up by midnight tonight. We hope you'll join us!

CONNECT WITH US >

Access sermon notes, event details, Life Groups + more on our website!

THURSDAY • BSM INTERNATIONAL STUDENT LUNCH

THF is providing lunch for international students at Texas Tech, and we need your help! This is a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus with students from around the world, right here in Lubbock. You can help by bringing a side dish at 11:00 AM, serving lunch from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM, praying for the students, or giving toward the cost of the meal. If you would like to help, please scan the QR code in the mall and we will contact you with more information.

AT THE HEIGHTS

NOVEMBER 14 • MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men, come hungry on Saturday, November 14, at 8:30 AM for a morning of great food and community. The event is free, but registration is required so we can plan for food. Visit the connect page on our website or scan the QR code in the mall area to sign up!

STAY IN THE LOOP

Make sure you don't miss important church updates, upcoming events, and reminders! Sign up to receive text messages from THF and stay in the loop with everything happening in our church family.

GENERAL CHURCH UPDATES
Text THF to (806) 583-0659

THF STUDENTS
Text STUDENTS to (806) 429-4443

THF WOMEN
Text WOMEN to (806) 583-0659

THF KIDS
Text KIDS to (806) 692-2233

GIVING AT A GLANCE

OCTOBER 25, 2026		YEAR TO DATE	
ACTUAL GIVING:	**$11,047.97**	*ACTUAL GIVING:*	**$788,178.66**
BUDGET NEEDS:	**$19,902.00**	*BUDGET NEEDS:*	**$844,414.00**

THE HEIGHTS FELLOWSHIP
6108 66TH ST, LUBBOCK, TX 79424
(806) 771-8415 • THEHEIGHTSFELLOWSHIP.ORG

NEHEMIAH

BUILDING A FAITH TO LAST A LIFETIME



A Breach in the Wall (builders)

In the history of the church we have seen that when the Devil could not destroy the church by persecution, the next thing he did was to join it.
- J. Vernon McGee

THE DEVIL SWITCHED SIDES

Chapter 5 represents his greatest challenge to date because the enemy **WAS INSIDE**

[12] If an enemy were insulting me, I could endure it; if a foe were rising against me, I could hide. [13] But it is you, a man like myself, my companion, my close friend, [14] with whom I once enjoyed sweet fellowship at the house of God, as we walked about among the worshipers. Psalm 55:12-14 niv

Nehemiah's 'Hurdles'

PERSONAL - Chose to become ***PERSONALLY INVOLVED*** in God's work

POLITICAL - Navigated the ***COURT*** of Persia and the ***ENEMIES*** of Israel

ADMINISTRATIVE - ***MANAGE*** the *time*, *people*, and the physcal *resources* to do the work.

DISCOURAGEMENT - Ridiculed, accused, and threatened

WORKS OF FAITH WILL ALWAYS CAUSE AN INTRUSION INTO OUR DAILY LIVES

A Great Outcry... IN THE MIDST OF A GREAT WORK (4:19) TO A GREAT GOD! 4:14

Now there was a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. Nehemiah 5:1

NOTE: Their faith had led them to leave their *homes* and *security* and *income* to work on the wall **IN THE MIDST OF AN INTENSE FAMINE** *5:3*

1. They were ***STARVING*** *v2*
2. They were **BROKE** and forced into ***BAD LOANS*** just to eat *v3*
3. They were ***OPPRESSED*** by their ***TAX BURDEN*** *v4* BORROWED TO PAY
4. They were forced into domestic ***SLAVERY*** *v5*

Irony - PROBLEM WAS NOT WALLS WITHOUT, BUT WALLS WITHIN!

The same Jews who cried out to God for freedom from Babylon and Persia were living in a way that forced **ONE ANOTHER** into bondage!

We are of the same race as our fellow Jews. Aren't our children just as good as theirs? But we have to make slaves of our children. Some of our daughters have already been sold as slaves. We are helpless because our fields and vineyards have been taken away from us." Nehemiah 5:5 tev

This is called ***USURY*** *(Ex 21:1-2,22:25-27,Lev 25:35-36)* *CF V10 NASB*

CF LEVITICUS 25:35-42; EXODUS 22:25

WHEN OUR WALLS ARE BREACHED

CF WAYS TO TURN DISAGREEMENTS INTO FUEDS

When you hear to problem, do not **IGNORE** *the problem.* *v6*

The root problem was not usery, but an underlying **SELFISHNESS**

A curse on him who is building his house by wrongdoing and his rooms by doing what is not right; who makes use of his neighbor without payment, and gives him nothing for his work. Jeremiah 22:13 bbe

Feel the Problem...and **OWN** *it.* *v6*

NEHEMIAH WAS ANGRY!
ANGER - *CHARAH* - TO GROW WARM
SAME ROOT AS 3:20

Sometimes, anger can be ***RIGHTEOUS***

Moses - Exodus 32 ***NOTE THAT NEHEMIAH IS NEVER DESCRIBED AS***
JESUS *- Mk3:5; Lk 19* ***BEING ANGRY AT HIS ENEMIES AND DETRACTORS!***

The *righteous* side of anger is that

— it **COMPELS** us through difficulties *Ephesians 4:26-27*

— it is **HARNESSED** into ***RIGHT BEHAVIOR*** *Proverbs 16:32*

Solve the Problem... **CONTEND** *with it.* *vv~13*

❶ ***CONSULT*** then **CONTEND** *v7*

CONSULT = *wayimaaleek* - to induct into ***ROYALTY***...therefore, to carefully *consider* and *evaluate*

CONTEND = means *to* ***grapple*** or to ***wrestle*** into place

❷ ***COME TOGETHER*** then **CONFRONT** *vV7-8* *BROTHER 4X VV7-10*

— you are ***MISTREATING*** and ***ABUSING*** people *vv7-8*

— you are making a mockery of the **REDEMPTIVE PURPOSE** *v8*

❸ **Keep the Stakes *HIGH***

— you are **MISREPRESENTING** God by your actions *v9*

— the ***GLORY*** of God was at stake

— the ***TESTIMONY*** of the nation was being ***compromised***

❹ **Call for CHANGE then get COMMITMENT**

— challenged to stop the ***USERY*** and ***GIVE BACK PROPERTY*** *vv10-11*

— Nehemian called on the priest to provide ***ACCOUNTABILITY*** *v12*

❺ **Reinforce the *COST* of COMPROMISE** *v13*

NEHEMIAH PULLED THIS OFF BECAUSE HE HAD GREAT MORAL AUTHORITY AND INTEGRITY WITH THEM

The Result

It created great **UNITY**

It generated **OBEDIENCE** toward God!

The whole assembly responded, "Amen," and they praised the LORD. And the people did as they had promised. Nehemiah 5:10 nlt

Notes from The Heights Fellowship *Series: Building a Faith to Last a Lifetime*

THF LifeNotes
Week of November 1, 2026

What is a situation where you had to manage an intense "internal conflict" (like a dispute within a family, a sports team, or a work department)? How does dealing with internal issues feel different than facing outside pressure?

- **Read vv 5:1–5.** What are the specific complaints the poor Jews are making against their wealthier brothers? How did a season of building and sacrifice turn into a season of exploitation?

- **Read vv 5:6–13.** Notice Nehemiah's reaction in verse 6. When is anger a sinful reaction, and when is it a "righteous" or godly response to injustice?

- **Read vv 7–11, how did the wealthy nobles violate God's heart (and Mosaic Law) regarding loans and interest?** What did true repentance look like for them when they were confronted?

- **Read 14–19.** How does Nehemiah's personal sacrifice as governor contrast with the heavy burdens placed on the people by previous leaders?

The internal conflict almost stopped the wall project entirely. Why are sins *inside* the church community (like greed, comparison, or gossip) often more damaging to the gospel's mission than pressure or criticism from the outside world?

Nehemiah used his personal resources and "table" to feed and bless others (v. 17-18). What practical resources (time, money, home, skills) has God trusted you with that you could use more intentionally to bless someone in our church or community who is hurting right now?

PRAYER REQUESTS -