Message: "All Hands On Deck"

Scripture: Nehemiah 3 (09-21-25 Pastor Tony Hao)

What things can you not do alone? Play football; water ski; play frisbee; sing a duet; get a hug. What things you should not do alone? Go hiking; move heavy items; do home repairs; eat large pizza; experience grief. There's one more: serve God.

In chapter 3 alone, Nehemiah mentioned seventy-five people by name and, in many instances, recognized their accomplishments. He also mentioned at least fifteen groups of people and a number of groups from other towns and cities. He knew these individuals by name. He not only knew where they worked, but also what they had accomplished.

Nehemiah also succeeded in getting people of all ages and from all walks of life to participate in rebuilding the wall. There were "priests" (v. 1), "goldsmiths" (v. 8), "perfumers" (v. 8), "temple servants" (v. 26), and "merchants" (v. 32). What a cooperative effort! It indicates that whole families worked together to rebuild certain sections of the wall.

Things you shouldn't do alone. To Keep the Faith: WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE. To Keep the Faith: WE NEED EACH OTHER. To Keep the Faith: WE NEED TO PERSEVERE.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

- 1. Among the following, which do you prefer and why: (a) individual or team sports? (b) solo music performance or group concerts? (c) living on your own or with roommates? (d) self employment or in a close-knit workforce?
- 2. What was the people's response to Nehemiah's challenge? How many professional groups or classes of the Jewish community participated in the endeavor? What, if any, distinctions between the priestly and non-priestly groups do you see?
- 3. What attitudes and actions from Nehemiah's team of wall-builders fit Christians who want to build the church? Which ones should we avoid?