

Homework Questions:

Identify one or two areas where you need to increase the flow.

- *One of the ways to recognize this area is you aren't walking in peace concerning it, there's no joy in that area, and /or you don't want to do it*

Ask yourself...How aligned am I with the voice of the shepherd? And where am I out of line?

REBUILDING THE GATES OF YOUR LIFE

Back into the Flow of the Spirit

Nehemiah 2:11 So I arrived in Jerusalem. Three days later,

Nehemiah 2:12 I slipped out during the night, taking only a few others with me. I had not told anyone about the plans God had put in my heart for Jerusalem. We took no pack animals with us except the donkey I was riding.

Nehemiah 2:13 After dark I went out through the Valley Gate, past the Jackal's Well, and over to the Dung Gate to inspect the broken walls and burned gates.

Nehemiah 2:14 Then I went to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but my donkey couldn't get through the rubble.

Nehemiah 2:15 So, though it was still dark, I went up the Kidron Valley instead, inspecting the wall before I turned back and entered again at the Valley Gate.

Nehemiah 2:16 The city officials did not know I had been out there or what I was doing, for I had not yet said anything to anyone about my plans. I had not yet spoken to the Jewish leaders—the priests, the nobles, the officials, or anyone else in the administration.

INTRODUCTION

THE GATES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY FIRE. THE GATES DETERMINE THE FLOW IN AND OUT OF THE CITY. WATER, FISH, SHEEP AND EVEN SEWAGE.

IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE CITY YOU MUST STOP ALL THE NATURAL FLOW...VALLEY, DUNG, FOUNTAIN, WATER, HORSE, EAST, INSPECTION

NEHEMIAH COULD NOT TAKE ADDITIONAL ANIMALS

1. NO POWER OTHER THAN THE SPIRIT

SOME OF US NEVER MOVE BACK INTO THE FLOW BECAUSE OF THE OTHER "SOURCES"

2. NO OTHERS KNEW OF HIS PLANS

WE SPEND TOO MUCH TIME TRYNG TO FIND AGREEMENT

3. HE ONLY TOOK A FEW WITH HIM

WE HAVE TOO MANY WITH US

GIDEON WAS FORCED TO REDUCE HIS NUMBERS IN ORDER. TO INCREASE THE GLORY OF GOD!

**GATES ON THE NORTH SIDE
SHEEP GATE**

HISTORICALLY, AS YOU WOULD GUESS, THESE GATES TOOK CARE OF SHEPHERDING. THE HEALTH OF THE SHEEP WAS CRITICAL TO THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY, THE SHEEP FED THEM AND CLOTHED THEM.

1. REMEMBER THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS FOR THE SHEEP
2. SHEEP FOLLOW HIS VOICE

John 10:1 “I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber!2 But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.:3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

John 10:9 Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures.:10 The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

FISH GATE

THE FISHING INDUSTRY DEPENDED ON THIS GATE FOR THE HARVEST AND SALE OF FISH. THE SEA OF GALILEE AND TYRE WERE CLOSE BY.

Luke 5:10 His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, “Don’t be afraid! From now on you’ll be fishing for people!”

1. YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SHEPHERD DETERMINES YOUR INFLUENCE
2. YOUR INFLUENCE IN YOUR SPHERE DETERMINES YOUR PROVISION

OLD GATE

Philippians 3:12 I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me.:13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I

have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.;¹⁴ I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.;¹⁵ Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you.¹⁶ But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.

NAMED FOR ITS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AS THE MAIN ENTRANCE INTO THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

1. THIS GATE IS ALL ABOUT HISTORY
2. REBUILDING WAS NOT FOR PASSAGE OR FLOW

NOTES: