***BIBLE STUDY WEEK 7 – NEHEMIAH CH’S1&2***

**Have you ever played a game called Jenga? It is noisy and great fun. The basic idea is to use small blocks to build a high tower, taking turns to remove a block till the tower inevitably crashes to the ground. Then off you go again. As we move now from Ezra to Nehemiah we see a certain pattern forming – rebuilding is required, permission sought, an epic journey is achieved, rebuilding happens, the people run out of faith and off we go again.**

**Nehemiah – who holds an important position in the Babylonian court (cupbearer to the King – like the chief butler in Downtown Abbey) receives a divine call to continue the work of rebuilding Jerusalem. The city walls and gates seem to be his immediate focus, remember the temple and temple worship has already been completed during earlier missions we covered in the Book of Ezra.**

**In our first two chapters we see the call and permission to go unfold, the journey achieved and his initial inspection happens but as our questions will direct us so much more is going on. I hope you are enjoying these opportunities to study God’s Word together may He grant us wisdom and strength as we look forward to a season of rebuilding in our own nation and country in the days to come. Amen**

**Q1**

**We are introduced to Nehemiah in these early chapters – you might like to begin to build up a profile of this man and his character and strengths from what we discover about him in these chapters.**

**Q2**

**In these chapters we see a Godly man at prayer (ch1 v4-11, ch2 v4) what lessons can we learn about prayer in general and is there a personal application for our own struggles in prayer?**

**Q3**

**Given the whole story of this rebuilding project so far – are we more likely to give up on ourselves than God is? You can approach this question in an evangelistic way – will I ever find true faith? Or a Christian growth way – will I ever make any real headway in faith? Or even in a Divine Providence way – will I ever truly know what God wants me to do?**

**Q4**

**Dealing with opposition always seems to be a part of being where God wants you to be from the final verses of our chapters we see Nehemiah’s first dealings with opposition – what do we learn even at this early stage?**

**God Bless you everyone keep the faith and keep safe. Mark**