

# Message Notes

January 29, 2012

**Message: When the going gets tough: Facing resistance**

**Key Passage: Nehemiah 4**

**My Notes :**

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**How I will apply this message to my life :**

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**Prayer Items for this week :**

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## Study Guide for Individuals and Small Groups

**Opposition to the Rebuilding - [Nehemiah 4:1-23](#)**

### Open It

Why do you think some people get upset when they see others succeed?

In what situations is competition good?

### Explore It

Why did Sanballat become angry with the Jews? ([4:1](#))

What did Sanballat and Tobiah do to discourage the Jews ([4:1-3](#))

How did Nehemiah respond to the taunts of his enemies? ([4:4-5](#))

According to Nehemiah, why were the Jews so successful in their work? ([4:6](#))

In what specific ways did Nehemiah and the Israelites show commitment to this project? ([4:6-23](#))

What did Israel's enemies do when they heard of Israel's success in rebuilding Jerusalem's walls? ([4:7-8](#))

How did Nehemiah and the Jews respond to the plotting of their enemies? ([4:9](#))

What did Nehemiah do to encourage the Israelites and protect them from their enemies? ([4:10-14](#))

How were the Jews able to return to their work? ([4:15](#))

### Get It

How should we respond to negative events or criticism from others?

When have you ever felt opposition from other people when you have done what you thought was morally right?

What practical steps could you take the next time you feel opposition from others for doing what is right?

To what project or work do you need to renew your commitment?

### Apply It

What steps could you take to renew your commitment to a project you believe is important to accomplish?

What concrete action can you take today to prepare yourself to deal with opposition or criticism from others?