

“Three Key Ingredients To Restructuring”

Nehemiah 3:1-2

Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel. ²The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them.

Personal Study Guide: Entering a Season of Restructuring

Introduction

We are embarking on a new sermon series focused on the theme of restructuring. Restructuring is a call to change, alter, or restore the structure of something in your life, whether it's your home, habits, or spiritual walk. It involves revamping, reorganizing, and realigning to enhance performance, productivity, and purpose. This study guide is designed to help you personally reflect on what God might be calling you to restructure in your life and how you can actively participate in this transformative process.

Section 1: Understanding Restructuring

Key Points:

- Restructuring involves making significant changes to the structure, management, or organization of something.
- It requires reevaluation and refinement of how things are being done, with the goal of improvement.
- Restructuring is about shaking things up, shifting priorities, refocusing energy, and enhancing processes to better fulfill your purpose.

Reflection Questions:

1. Define Your Restructure: What does restructuring mean to you personally? Is there an area in your life where you feel called to make a change?
2. Identify Areas for Change: What areas of your life need restructuring? Consider your relationships, habits, finances, spiritual practices, or daily routines.

3. Purpose of Restructuring: Why do you think God might be calling you to restructure this area? How do you believe these changes will impact your life?

Action Step: Write down one area of your life that you believe needs restructuring. Be specific about why this change is necessary.

Section 2: Recognizing What Needs to Be Shaken and Shifted

Key Points:

- Restructuring often requires identifying what needs to be shaken up and shifted around. Sometimes, we must disrupt old patterns and let go of what no longer serves us.
- Shaking things up can be uncomfortable, but it's necessary for growth and realignment with God's purpose.
- Shifting requires action and intentionality; it's about making deliberate moves toward a better way of doing things.

Reflection Questions:

1. Shake It Up: What aspects of your current routines, mindsets, or relationships need to be shaken up? Are there areas where you've become complacent or stagnant?
2. Shift Your Focus: Where does your focus need to shift? Are there things consuming your time and energy that are not aligned with your goals or God's will for your life?
3. Overcoming Resistance: Are there fears or hesitations holding you back from making these changes? How can you address these obstacles?

Action Step: Identify one specific habit, mindset, or relationship that needs to be shaken up. Write down a practical step you can take to start making that shift.

Section 3: Reevaluating and Refining Systems

Key Points:

- Restructuring involves taking a hard look at how things are currently running in your life. It's about refining and improving systems for better outcomes.
- This could include reorganizing your time management, refining your spiritual disciplines, or making changes to how you handle your responsibilities.

- By refining these systems, you create space for greater productivity, purpose, and alignment with God's plan.

Reflection Questions:

1. Evaluate Your Systems: How are your current systems (daily routines, spiritual practices, work habits) serving you? What's working well, and what's not?
2. Refine for Improvement: What specific refinements can you make to improve your systems? What small adjustments could lead to big changes in your productivity and purpose?
3. Setting Priorities: What priorities need to be realigned to better match your values and God's direction for your life?

Action Step: Choose one system in your life that needs refining. Outline the steps you will take to make these adjustments over the next week.

Section 4: Enhancing Performance, Productivity, and Purpose

Key Points:

- The ultimate goal of restructuring is to enhance your performance, increase your productivity, and better align your life with your God-given purpose.
- It's not just about doing more; it's about doing what truly matters and focusing your efforts on what God has called you to do.
- Enhancing these areas often involves setting clear goals, staying disciplined, and being open to continuous improvement.

Reflection Questions:

1. Performance Check: In what areas of your life do you need to enhance your performance? How can you show up more fully and intentionally in those areas?
2. Boosting Productivity: What changes can you make to be more productive? Are there tasks you can delegate, distractions you need to eliminate, or habits you need to adopt?
3. Purpose Alignment: How does your current lifestyle align with your purpose? What adjustments can you make to better pursue the mission God has placed in your heart?

Action Step: Set one clear goal for enhancing your performance, productivity, or purpose this month. Write down specific actions you will take to work toward this goal.

Final Questions for Reflection:

1. **What is one thing you will commit to restructuring in your life starting today?**
 2. **How will you stay accountable to the changes you need to make?**
 3. **In what ways will restructuring help you grow closer to God and align more with His will?**
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Section 5: Commitment to a Common Cause

Key Points:

- Nehemiah 3 emphasizes the repeated actions of the people: "they built," "they repaired," and "next to them." This repetition shows a community united in action, not just words.
- The difference between Nehemiah chapters 2 and 3 is striking: chapter 2 is filled with planning and talking, while chapter 3 shows the people doing the work.
- The people moved from planning to action, emphasizing that talk is cheap; it's time to put in the work.

Reflection Questions:

1. **Identify Your Cause:** What is a common cause or goal in your life that you need to commit to? It could be personal, spiritual, or professional.
2. **Assess Your Actions:** Are you more of a talker or a doer when it comes to your goals? What steps can you take to transition from planning to doing?
3. **Overcoming Paralysis of Analysis:** Have you ever felt stuck in "analysis paralysis" where you spend too much time thinking and not enough time acting? How can you overcome this?

Action Step: Write down one specific action you will take this week to move forward on your common cause.

Section 6: Leadership Through Example

Key Points:

- Eliashib the high priest led by example, demonstrating that no one is too "spiritual" to get involved in the work.
- Good leadership requires knowing the way, going the way, and showing the way. Leaders should model the behavior they expect from others.
- To lead by example is to embody the values you want to see in others and to inspire them through your actions.

Reflection Questions:

1. **Evaluate Your Leadership:** Are you leading by example in your life, whether in your family, workplace, or community? How do your actions reflect your values?
2. **Modeling the Way:** Think of a time when someone influenced you by their actions rather than their words. How did their example impact you?
3. **Personal Accountability:** In what areas do you need to step up and lead the charge of change in your life?

Action Step: Identify one area where you can lead by example this week. Write down a specific action you will take to demonstrate the values you believe in.

Section 7: Unity in Diversity

Key Points:

- The rebuilding effort included people from various backgrounds, emphasizing the importance of unity in diversity. Each person brought something unique to the task, creating a collective strength.
- Celebrating unity in diversity means appreciating and integrating the differences among us to achieve a common goal.
- Just like different ingredients make a complete recipe, our diverse skills and experiences are essential to success.

Reflection Questions:

1. **Celebrate Differences:** How do you see diversity playing a role in your team or community? What unique qualities do you bring to the table?

2. **Embrace Collaboration:** Have you ever struggled to work with people who are different from you? How can you better appreciate and leverage those differences?
3. **Strength in Unity:** Reflect on a time when a diverse group came together to achieve a goal. What made the collaboration successful?

Action Step: Reach out to someone different from you this week—different background, perspective, or skill set—and find a way to collaborate on a small task or project.

Conclusion

"They Were Committed To A Common Cause" reminds us that commitment, leadership, and unity are crucial in any restructuring effort. It challenges us to move beyond words to action, lead by example, and embrace the diversity around us. By reflecting on these principles and taking intentional steps, we can actively participate in the work God has called us to, making our actions a true worship unto Him.

Final Questions for Reflection:

1. **What is God calling you to build or rebuild in your life?**
2. **How can you better lead by example in your sphere of influence?**
3. **What steps will you take this week to unite with others for a common cause?**

Use this guide to deepen your commitment to the causes God has placed in your heart, and may your work be a testimony of worship and dedication to Him.