It Takes Teamwork to Make the Dream Work!
IT’S GOOD! – Part 1
February 7, 2016 • Chris Goins • Nehemiah 2:18-19; 3:1-5

Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, “Let us rise up and build.” So they strengthened their hands for the good work. — Nehemiah 2:18-19

The Pareto Principle – The 20 / 80 Rule…

20% of your effort is responsible for 80% of your outcome.
20% of the people do 80% of the ministry.

Important: Average isn’t good enough!

Nehemiah 3

Then Eliashib the high priest and the other priests started to rebuild at the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set up its doors, building the wall as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and the Tower of Hananel. 2 People from the town of Jericho worked next to them, and beyond them was Zaccur son of Imri.

3 The Fish Gate was built by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid the beams, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars.

4 Meremoth son of Uriah and grandson of Hakkoz repaired the next section of wall. Beside him were Meshullam son of Berekiah and grandson of Meshezabel, and then Zadok son of Baana.

5 Next were the people from Tekoa, (except for their nobles, who wouldn’t work with their master and refused to get their hands dirty with such work). —Nehemiah 3:1-5

Four Thoughts About How Teamwork Makes the Dream Work:

1. Real leaders always lead by example.

“The Law of the Picture – People do what people see.” —John Maxwell,
The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership

2. The majority of people “bought in” to the dream.

Shallum son of Hallohesh and his daughters repaired the next section… — Nehemiah 3:12 (NLT)

Our definition of TEAM.

T – Together
E – Everyone
A – Achieves
M – More

3. The slackers were ignored.

Next were the people from Tekoa, (except for their nobles, who wouldn’t work with their master and refused to get their hands dirty with such work). —Nehemiah 3:5

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.” —Theodore Roosevelt, The Man in the Arena, delivered at the Sorbonne (Paris), April 23, 1910
4. The people who picked up a brick got the attention of God.

Nehemiah 3 contains a list of at least 38 individuals who rolled up their sleeves and went to work on the wall. Not only that, but the chapter contains a list of 42 separate teams spread out across 7 neighborhoods.

Why? Why this attention to detail?

Maybe, because like any good leader, Nehemiah wanted to write down the names of the players on his team so that he could pray for them or write them a thank you note?

Or maybe, just maybe, because GOD took note of every person who picked up a brick and went to work on the wall!

IMPORTANT: God notices your service and ministry!

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward. — Matthew 10:42 (NIV)

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. 24 Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ. — Colossians 3:23-24 NLT