



Charting the Course:

a devotion by Chuck Hall

Keep Building

In April of 1971 before I was married, I attended the Freewill Baptist Bible College Spring Conference in Nashville, TN. I was visiting Mary Nell Lanier who was a student there. A sermon was delivered during that conference that changed the course of my life. The preacher spoke about Nehemiah rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem. He pointed out that Nehemiah's enemies tried to get him to stop building and come down from the wall. But Nehemiah replied, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?" (Neh. 6:3 ESV).

The speaker's point was that each of us must set his heart to serve the Lord with total abandon in that which God has called him to. The work is too important to be distracted. You must not stop. You must keep building. I can still hear him preaching, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Give me more mud to build the wall! More mud! Give me more mud!

My heart is aflame to preach the gospel of Christ. Even as I write this, I'm stirred as I remember the passionate words of that Baptist preacher. It was his message that the Lord used to call me into the ministry thirty-nine years ago. With the words, "More mud, give me more mud!", ringing in my ears I went forward to answer the call to go and make disciples of all nations.

I believe that this is a word for you today. The Lord has given you a great work to do. A work that only you can do. Do not listen to the discouraging words of the enemy. Do not be distracted from that which the Lord has called you. You are doing a great work for God. Don't stop. Stay on the wall and keep building.

May 2010