

When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God. Nehemiah 6:16 (NIV)

Impossible Work

Well, this is impossible. It can't be done. There is no way, no how. This is so far beyond me. **What's that?** This work that you have given me to do for you. How in the world did you expect that I would ever be able to accomplish this work? I couldn't accomplish this work in a hundred lifetimes. That may be an exaggeration. But, I only have one lifetime and I certainly can't accomplish this in it. **You're getting a little worked up about this. Are you expecting that I will disagree with you?** You don't disagree with me? **No, I completely agree with you.** Are you telling me that you have deliberately given me work to do that I cannot possibly accomplish? **That's exactly what I'm telling you.** Why would you do that? That seems a little unfair to me. **Are you telling me that you only want me to give you work that is easy to accomplish? Do you only want work that you can accomplish with your own gifts, talents and abilities?** Those are interesting questions. No, I don't want to be given only easy work to do. No, I don't want to be given work that is only within my gifts, talents and abilities. **I'm glad to hear that from you.**

Do you know why I give you work that you can't possibly accomplish by yourself? I'm not sure. **When you accomplish a job with your own gifts, talents and abilities who gets all the credit?** I guess I do. **That's right. When I help you to do something that you can't possible do who gets all the credit?** You get all the credit. You get the praise and the glory because both I and everyone else knows that it is you who has accomplished a great thing in and through me. You have allowed my life to be a witness for you in the world. **Do you like knowing that I have worked in and through you? Do you want to know that I have made you able to bear an abundance of fruit for my kingdom and glory? Do you like it when your life serves as a witness for me in the world?** Yes, I like knowing that you are working in and through my life. Yes, I like knowing that you are making me able to bear an abundance of fruit for your kingdom and glory. Yes, I definitely want my life to serve as a witness in the world for you. **Is it fair then that I give assignments that are far beyond your ability to accomplish them without my help?** Yes, it is. **That's good. That is what I will keep on doing.**

Lord, this will sound crazy. I would like you to give me work that I can't accomplish without your help. I would like to learn how to rely on you more completely. I would like others to see you by the work you do in and through me. Amen

Confidence *Self-Confidence*

When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.

NIV Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Fell Greatly In Their Own Esteem*

And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

ESV Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Humiliated*

When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God.

NLT Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Disheartened*

And it happened, when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations around us saw these things, that they were very disheartened in their own eyes; for they perceived that this work was done by our God.

NKJV Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Fell Greatly In Their Own Esteem*

And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem; for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

NRSV Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Lost Their Nerve*

When all our enemies heard the news and all the surrounding nations saw it, our enemies totally lost their nerve. They knew that God was behind this work.

MSG Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Fell Far In Their Own Esteem*

When all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us feared and fell far in their own esteem, for they saw that this work was done by our God.

AMP Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Humiliated*

When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated, and they realized that the work had been done with the help of our God.

TLB Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Lost Their Self-Confidence*

When all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations surrounding us saw it, they lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

NASB Nehemiah 6:16

Confidence *Were Shamed*

When all our enemies heard about it and all the nations around us saw it, they were shamed. They then understood that the work had been done with the help of our God.

NCV Nehemiah 6:16

Self-Confidence

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Confidence – Nehemiah 6:16

In Context: *Read Nehemiah 6*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God. Nehemiah 6:16

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

When all | our enemies | heard | about this, | all the | surrounding nations | were afraid | and | lost their | self-confidence, | because | they realized | that | this work | had been | done | with | the help | of | our God.
Nehemiah 6:16

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, this will sound crazy. I would like you to give me work that I can't accomplish without your help. I would like to learn how to rely on you more completely. I would like others to see you by the work you do in and through me. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How strong and reliable is self-confidence?

When has self-confidence let you down?

Why does God lead you into work that you can't accomplish without His help?

What work are you now doing that requires God's help?

How will God doing a work in and through your life be a witness to others?

When has God helped you to do something you could not have done on your own?

When do you ask for God's help on the work that He has given you to do?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Ask the Lord to give you work to do that you can't accomplish without His help.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will give you work to do that you can't accomplish without His help.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has accomplished His work in or through you.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you have confidence in God to help you accomplish the work He has given you to do for Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will have confidence that you will help me to do the work you have given me to do for you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how can I rely on your help to do the work you have given me to do for you?
