

Any time you are working to change things, there will be people who want it to stay the same. They will use many different tactics to keep you from being successful. In this study we will talk about what kind of tactics people use and how to deal with opposition when it comes.

1. Have you ever faced direct opposition? What was your initial reaction? Share details, if you are willing to.

“Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews.”
- Nehemiah 4:1 (ESV)

2. **Read Nehemiah 4:1-3.** Opposition often comes in the form of someone showing the gaps in your wall. Talk about some of the specific things Sanballat and Tobiah said and discuss how people will use this tactic to stop change.

“So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.”
- Nehemiah 4:6 (ESV)

3. **Read Nehemiah 4:4-6 and Mark 6:1-6.** How did both Nehemiah and Jesus respond to these kinds of criticisms? What principles can we learn about how to face opposition?

