



**MATURING AMIDST
DISCOURAGEMENT**

SEP 9, 2018



DISCOURAGEMENT IS CONTAGIOUS

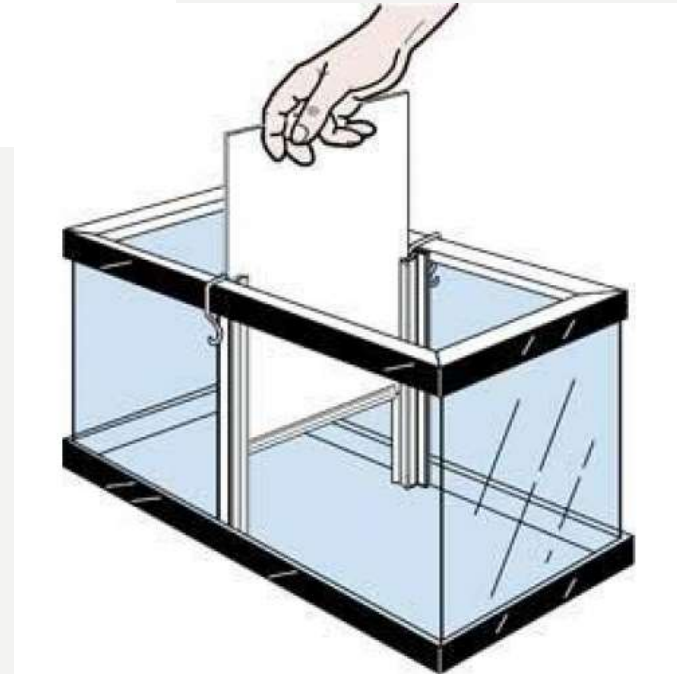
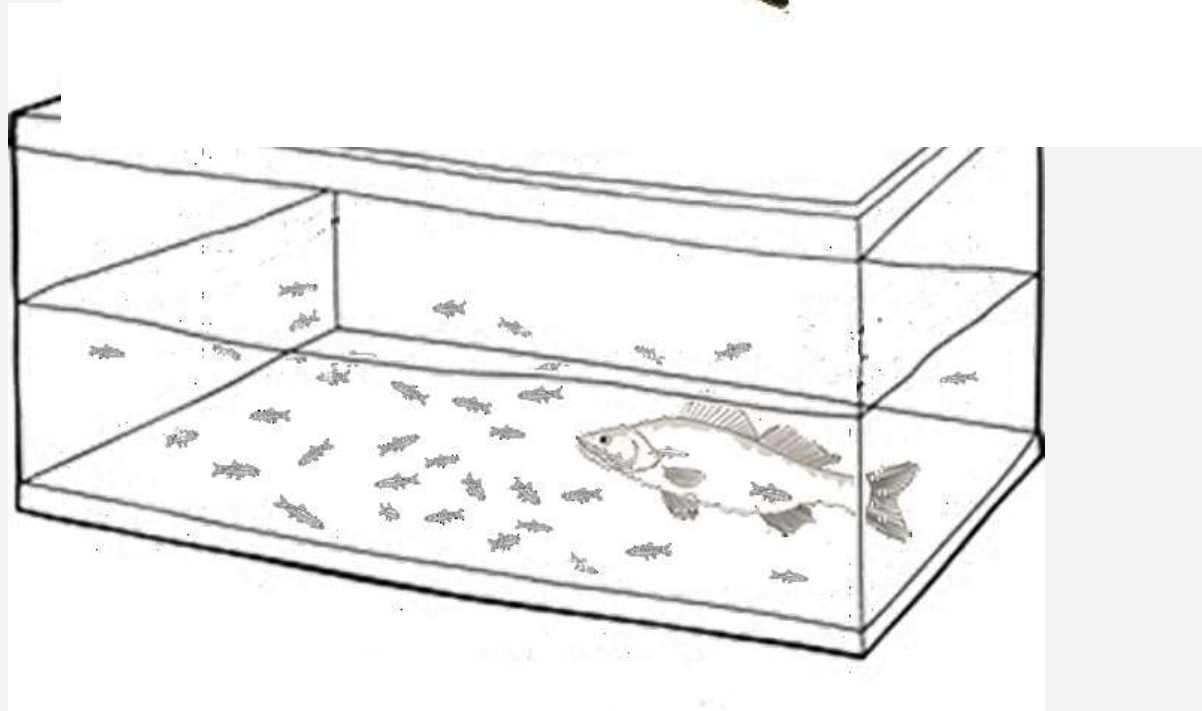


SOURCES OF DISCOURAGEMENT

- Nehemiah 4:10 – Meanwhile, the people in Judah were saying, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.”

- In 4:12, “Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.”

PIKE FISH EXPERIMENT



DISCOURAGEMENT:

- 1. Loss of strength (I O - strength of the laborers is giving out)
- 2. Loss of vision (there is so much rubble)
- 3. Loss of confidence (no way we can rebuild)
- 4. Loss of courage (I I - our enemies have said, before they know or see us, we will be right there among them and kill them and put an end to the work)

AIRDRIE ALLIANCE CHURCH

- Lead Pastor
Sandy Isfeld

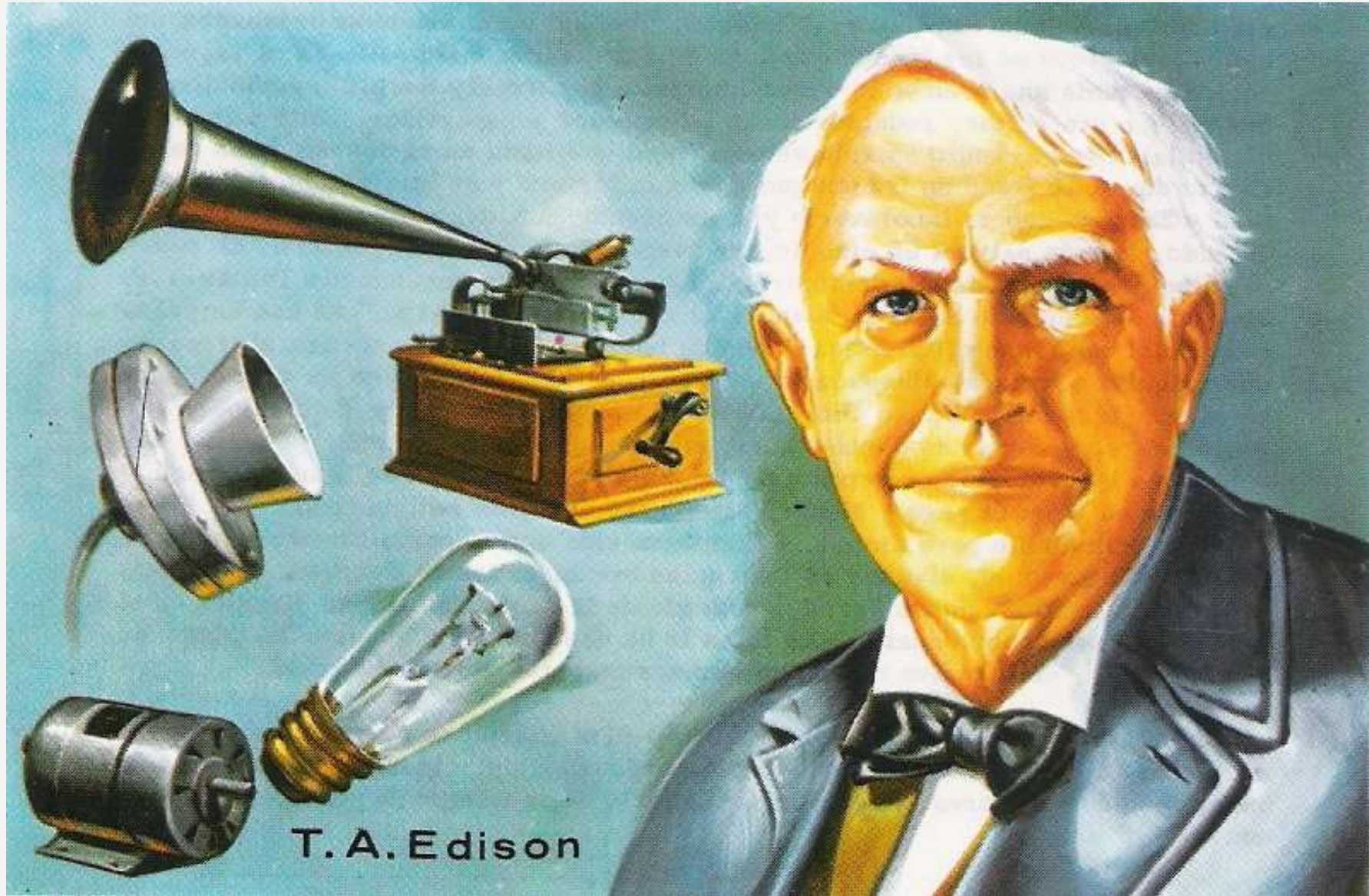


- How do you deal with discouragement?

HOW DID NEHEMIAH DEAL WITH DISCOURAGEMENTS

- 1. Unify the people (4:13 - goal of preservation.)
- 2. Direct attention to the Lord (4:14 - “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome.”)

- 3. Do not fight alone (4:19-20, Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. ²⁰ Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!”)



T. A. Edison



FAITH IS CONTAGIOUS TOO

PRAYER BY TIFFANY STUART

- Lord God Almighty, here I am to worship You. You are worthy of my worship regardless of how I feel. I know all too well my feelings are fickle. You are God. I am not. Thank goodness.

- Thank You for Your watchful and gentle care over my life. Thank You for never giving up on me. You are patient. Thank You for always being there. You are faithful. Thank You for rescuing me from my own destruction. You are merciful.

- Thank You for cleansing me from all unrighteousness. You are forgiving. Thank You for freedom, freedom found only in Christ alone. Thank You for calling me as Your own.
- Jesus, thank You for the love You showed for all of humanity on the cross. Your love amazes me.

- Today I pause to pray for my struggle with discouragement or depression. You know who we are. You know me by name. You know the daily battle of my mind. You know how tired I am. You know my heart is heavy. You know I want deliverance sooner than later. You know the circumstances I find myself this week.

- Please God, come and comfort Your people. Deliver me from evil. Be my Comforter, my hiding place, my rock. Please lift this burden. Nothing is too hard for You. May the discouraged and the depressed live to praise Your name. Give me a testimony of how great You are. Heal me and bring me hope again.

- God, You know the end result of my life and it is always good. You use hardships to shape Your people. Please Lord, let the discouraged see You today. Speak truth over the lies I am believing. Give me teachable, soft heart to learn from whatever comes my way. Give me strength to fight back with prayer and praise. Do not let the enemy triumph over me another day.

- Victory is mine because of Christ. May I believe that today. Your grace be sufficient for me today.
- Jesus, Your truth is all I need. In my weakness, You are strong. I can trust You today and all of my tomorrows. Hold my hand. Carry me if need be. Today I fix my eyes on the eternal, for that will be my greatest reward: *to see You face to face.*