



Week 5 -- Nehemiah

Announcements

- **401 Small Group Training** – Sunday, October 28, 5:00 pm at LCC Studio123
Are you Passionate about helping connect people of our church and community into life giving relationships that help them grow in their walk with God? This training will equip you to fulfill God's purpose of *Reaching People and Building Lives*. Register at ChurchoftheKing.com/register.

Warm-up

Have you every witnessed a natural disaster, car accident, war, etc.? What was it like to walk through the wreckage?

Nehemiah experienced the destruction of his hometown after it was ravaged by war. Despite the overwhelming circumstances, he recognized no problem is too big when you have help.

Word & Application

Read Nehemiah 1:1-4. Nehemiah was faced with a tough decision. He knew his city was destroyed and a leader needed to rise up to bring restoration. However, he found himself in a very comfortable position as cupbearer to the king of another country. Nehemiah was challenged with being far away from the problem and overwhelmed with what it would take to rebuild the city.

How do you think most people would respond in a situation like Nehemiah faced? Why?

Read Nehemiah 2:17-18. The rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem is not the story of a single powerful person. The walls were rebuilt because God was involved and many people helped one another.

Why is it hard for people to ask for help when they face challenging situations?

Nehemiah helps us understand when we should ask for help.

1) We should first share the problem with God before we ask others for help.

Read Nehemiah 1:5-6. The first thing Nehemiah did when he heard about Jerusalem's condition was to talk with God.

When you face challenges in life, do you tend to talk to God or others first? Why?

Read Psalm 121:1-2 and 1 Peter 5:7 to find out how God can help you in times of trouble.

2) We should ask others for help when the problem is bigger than us.

Read Nehemiah 2:5-8. God used Nehemiah's relationship with the King to help fulfill his purpose of restoring Jerusalem. How have you seen God use relationships in your life to help fulfill his purpose for your life?

Do you find it easy or difficult to ask others for help? Why? What can you do to become more comfortable with asking for help?

3) We should ask others for help when we are willing to do our part.

Read Nehemiah 2:12-13, 17. God wants to be our partner throughout life. However, we are often tempted to either carry the entire load ourselves or give everything to God and not play our part.

What does it say about Nehemiah's character that he was unwilling to ask for help until he determined to be part of the solution?

Do you tend to try to solve your problems all by yourself, or do you usually give all of the responsibility away? What can you do to improve how you handle life's challenges?

Nehemiah reminds us no problem is too big when we have help. After today's discussion, how has your perspective on how to face life's challenges changed?

Prayer

Pray for each person in the group to learn how to approach life's challenges with God's perspective. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.