

Character Study: Nehemiah

Part 2 – Sharing the Vision

Nehemiah 2:7-3:32

What's happening?

- Nehemiah was given permission to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the city. He requested timber from the king's forest to be use in the construction work, and the king kindly granted him his request. (2:7-8)
- Nehemiah made the journey to Jerusalem. Before he ever told anyone why he was there, he surveyed the destruction. Seeing the condition of the city for himself, he was able to determine what exactly needed to be done. (2:11-16)
- Nehemiah spoke to the Israelites about rebuilding the city wall. He shared with them how God's hand was upon him and how the king had given them his support to do the work. The people were encouraged and determined to work together to accomplish the big task ahead. (2:17-18)
- Nehemiah organized the people into groups to work on the wall. Each group had their own section of the wall that they were responsible to rebuild. (3:1-32)

What's God doing?

> The big task of rebuilding Jerusalem was underway. God had provided His people with a capable leader, plenty of timber, and an energized workforce. Seeing God's blessing is what motivated the people to work.

What's to learn?

→ Nehemiah was willing to abandon his position in the king's court in order to accomplish what God wanted him to do. Are we willing to make sacrifices to do what God desires of us?

→ Nehemiah carefully analyzed the situation and determined what needed to be done. Nehemiah demonstrated good leadership in his planning, plus a heart to do the job correctly.

→ The rebuilding often began at home. Many people worked on the section of the wall that was located right by their house. This got people more personally involved and motivated. It also utilized all the available help. The project was a team effort, as everyone did their share.