

NEHEMIAH

Chapter 2 - 2/17/19

OVERVIEW

Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king, with all the honor that comes with the job of such an official. He did not need to trouble himself with the ruins of Jerusalem hundreds of miles away, but he did. And his favor with the king put him in a position to go to Jerusalem blessed and equipped, if he could face his great fear of asking the king for permission and support. God has placed you in just the right place to own His future for you. Is fear standing in your way? What are you afraid of that is keeping you from taking the first step toward taking action?

Scriptures: Nehemiah 2:1-2, Nehemiah 1:11, Nehemiah 2:3-4, Philippians 4:6-7, Nehemiah 2:5-8

APPLICATION

1. Do you have any phobias—what are you afraid of? It doesn't matter if it's silly or serious or anything in between.
2. Jeremy talked about the idea that fear often keeps people from following God's direction. What fear in your life keeps you from following God's direction?
3. Nehemiah 2:1-2 describes Nehemiah's response to the King - FEAR. What do you think caused Nehemiah to be afraid of the King's offer of assistance?
4. Nehemiah 2:5-8 shows the king's generosity in response to Nehemiah's request. When you're looking at the thing that you're fearful of facing, you're often the most afraid of the things you're not able to control. What are some things that are out of your control that cause needless fear?
5. Philippians 4:6-7 talks about God giving you his peace: "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." What is the difference between having God's peace and focusing on your problem?

HOMEWORK: Jeremy reminded us, "Nothing significant happens in the kingdom of God through God's people without prayer as the centerpiece." Join us this week as we fast and pray as a church.