

STRONGMEN AND Legacy Makers

Nehemiah (Part 1)...The Heart of a Strong Leader ...Nehemiah 1

"If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." ...2Chronicles 7:14 (ESV)

Words of Wisdom • *"Remember you are God's sword – His instrument – I trust a chosen vessel unto Him to bear His name. In great measure, according to the purity and perfections of the instrument will be the success. It is not great talents God blesses so much as great likeness to Jesus. A holy minister is an awful weapon in the hand of God."*
~Robert Murray M'Cheyne, 1840

Nehemiah... How God builds a Leader

1. A Man of God...A Heart for God...

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-3, Psalm 139:23-24

◆ *Surveying the Condition of Our Lives...AND the Things that Matter to God!*

2. Caring about what God cares about...

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:4-7, Romans 12:9-18

◆ *Taking Personal Responsibility for you, and for every relationship that you have, at every level...
...beginning with Family!*

3. Putting First Things First...

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:8-11, 2Chronicles 7:14-16, Jeremiah 7:23, Jeremiah 29:11-13

◆ Do we live our lives in a way, in a place, where God's name will dwell?

◆ Do we bear His mark (a sanctified life) upon our lives?

Group Discussion

1. Think about this... Does your desire to maintain and increase your personal comfort keep you from sincerely and actively caring about other people, issues in society, or stepping out in action to what God might be calling you to do?
2. If you were to write down everything you have done over the past month that was only for other people, or only in obedience to God directing you, not at all for yourself...what would that list look like?
(...this is not about keeping record, but rather self-evaluation)
3. READ *Nehemiah 1:2-3* and *Psalms 139:23-24*... If you were to survey the condition of your own life and heart, your own home, and your family or people closest to you...what would you see?
 - Is there any brokenness, hurt, challenged relationships?
 - Are there choices being made, that reflect your love and your care?
 - Would those closest to you say that love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are all qualities that are reflected from your life? (*Galatians 5:22-25*)
4. READ *Nehemiah 1:4-7* and *Romans 12:9-18*... As you consider the above questions...
 - Do you take personal responsibility for the condition of your home, and for the condition of the relationships you have with those closest to you? (*Understanding that you cannot control the perspectives, responses, and behaviors of other people*).
 - How do you respond to what you see? ...What affect does it have on you?
5. READ *Nehemiah 1:9-10* and *2Chronicles 7:14-16*... How does this inspire you to pray; for your own heart, for your own home, and for your family or people closest to you?
 - How does it inspire you to pray for your Country?

Think about this...

- ◆ Do we live our lives in a way, in a place, where God's name can dwell?
- ◆ Do we bare His mark (a sanctified life) upon our lives?

Prayer

Take a few moments to share any Prayer Requests with the men in your Group. Write down any requests and commit to pray for one another throughout the week.

(It's great to know that other guys are praying for the important things in your life...and it's great to be praying for the important things in their lives!)

How do the **5 Principles for the Christian Man**, help equip you to apply this to your life?

Discuss your answer with your group...

- Prayer (*Relationship*)
- God's Word (*Knowledge and Understanding*)
- Worship (*Adoration*)
- Fellowship (*Encouragement and Accountability*)
- Service (*Caring for Others, Action to your Belief*)