



Pastor Kris Beckert
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Ready
Nehemiah 1:1-2:8

Have you ever lived in a place that needed some serious fixing up?

What do you hope to build with your life?

What does God want to build with your life?

I. God gets you ready by:

1. Giving you a _____

Neh 1:1-3 *In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, 2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. 3 They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."*

2. Giving you _____

Neh 1:4 *When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.*

II. You get ready by:

1. _____ for the Opportunity

Neh 1:5-11 *Then I said: "Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 6 let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel... 11 Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man." I was cupbearer to the king.*

2. _____ for the Opportunity

Neh 2:1-8 *In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, 2 so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart." I was very much afraid, 3 but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, 5 and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it." 6 Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time... And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.*

Point:

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. When was the last time you asked if God is getting you ready for something?
2. What needs bigger than yourself have gotten your attention?
3. Where have you experienced "holy discontentment?"
4. What opportunities do you need to pray for?
5. How can you begin to take steps & plan for the work God has called you to?



To talk personally and confidentially about your relationship with Christ, please email Pastor Todd (pastortodd@thevineva.org) or Pastor Kris (krisbeckert@thevineva.org).