

Intentionally Maintain Focus

October 10, 2020

Rebuilding A Life That Matters, Pt. 5

As You Build A Life That Matters, INTENTIONALLY MAINTAIN FOCUS!

Nehemiah 8:1, *All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel. ... And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law*

1) Begin With GOD'S WORD

Nehemiah 8:8, *They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read. 9 Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law*

Nehemiah 8:18, *Day after day, from the first day to the last, Ezra read from the Book of the Law of God...*

2) Be Moved To CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Nehemiah 9:2, *Those of Israelite descent had separated themselves from all foreigners. They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the sins of their ancestors. 3 They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshiping the Lord their God.*

3) Respond In WORSHIP

Nehemiah 9:5a, *And the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah—said:*

“Stand up and praise the Lord your God, Who is from everlasting to everlasting...

- **Proclaim His HOLINESS**

Nehemiah 9:5b, ...*“Blessed be Your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. 6 You alone are the Lord. You made the Heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of Heaven worship You.*

- **Recount His FAITHFULNESS**

Nehemiah 9:7, ...*“You are the Lord God, Who chose Abram... 9 “You saw the suffering of our ancestors in Egypt; You heard their cry at the Red Sea. 10 You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh... 13 “You came down on Mount Sinai; You spoke to them from Heaven... 15 In their hunger You gave them bread from Heaven and in their thirst You brought them water from the rock; You told them to go in and take possession of the land You had sworn with uplifted hand to give them... 21 For forty years You sustained them in the wilderness; they lacked nothing, their clothes did not wear out nor did their feet become swollen. 22 “You gave them kingdoms and nations, allotting to them even the remotest frontiers... 23 You made their children as numerous as the stars in the sky, and You brought them into the land that You told their parents to enter and possess.*

- **Dwell In His GRACE**

Nehemiah 9:16, *“ But they, our ancestors, became arrogant and stiff-necked, and they did not obey Your commands. 17 They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles You performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return to their slavery. But You are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore You did not desert them.*

Nehemiah 9:26, *“But they were disobedient and rebelled against You; they turned their backs on Your law. They killed Your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to You; they committed awful blasphemies. 27 So You delivered them into the hands of their*

enemies, who oppressed them. But when they were oppressed they cried out to You. From Heaven You heard them, and in Your great compassion You gave them deliverers, who rescued them from the hand of their enemies. 28 "But as soon as they were at rest, they again did what was evil in Your sight. Then You abandoned them to the hand of their enemies so that they ruled over them. And when they cried out to You again, You heard from Heaven, and in Your compassion You delivered them time after time. 29 "You warned them in order to turn them back to Your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed Your commands. They sinned against Your ordinances, of which You said, 'The person who obeys them will live by them. 'Stubbornly they turned their backs on You, became stiff-necked and refused to listen. 30 For many years You were patient with them. By Your Spirit You warned them through Your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so You gave them into the hands of the neighboring peoples. 31 But in your great mercy You did not put an end to them or abandon them, for You are a gracious and merciful God.

4) Lastly, Bring Your REQUESTS TO GOD

Nehemiah 9:32, *"Now therefore, our God, the great God, mighty and awesome, Who keeps His covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in Your eyes... 36 "But see, we are slaves today, slaves in the land You gave our ancestors so they could eat its fruit and the other good things it produces. 37 Because of our sins, its abundant harvest goes to the kings You have placed over us. They rule over our bodies and our cattle as they please. We are in great distress.*