

Commitments Really Matter

September 6, 2020

Rebuilding A Life That Matters, Pt.1

Nehemiah 1

Identify The PROBLEM: The Walls Are Broken Down

Nehemiah 1:3, *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.”*

Specific PRAYERS: Praying For Success

Nehemiah 1:11, 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.

Seeking The ANSWER: Making Commitments That Matter

Nehemiah 2:4, *The king said to me, “What is it you want?” Then I prayed to the God of Heaven, 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.”*

Why Are Commitments So Important?

Philippians 3:8, *What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for Whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. 10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but*

I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

- **My Commitments Shape My Character**

Galatians 5:22, *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control*

- **My Commitments Are Rewarded**

1 Timothy 4:7, *Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. 8 For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.*

What Kind Of Commitments Does God Bless?

- God Blesses Commitments That Honor Him (1 Corinthians 10:31; 16:20)
- God Blesses Commitments That Stretch My Faith (Joshua 1:8)
- God Blesses Commitments With The Community Of Believers (Ephesians 4:12; Galatians 6:1)

Four Commitments For Rebuilding Your Life:

1. **Commit To Worship** - Text "SERIES" To 77978

Nehemiah 12:27, *At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres.*

1. **Commit To Read God's Word** - Text "FORTY" To 77978

Nehemiah 9:3, *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 worshipping the LORD their God.*

1. **Commit To A Group** - Text "GROUP" To 77978

Nehemiah 3:1, *Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate... 2 The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them. 3 The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah.*

1. **Commit To Serve** - Text "SERVE" To 77978

Nehemiah 6:15, *So the wall was completed... in fifty-two days. 16 When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.*