

RISE UP & BUILD

A SERIES ON THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2

WELCOME.

WORSHIP.

Sing: GOODNESS OF GOD

WORD.

Introduction: God gives Nehemiah the burden and the vision to help his people, but God also made sure of the provision for the vision. God's purposes and always provided for, but Nehemiah gives us the example for diligently seeking wisdom through prayer and fasting in pursuit of God's purpose.

Scripture: Nehemiah 2

1. Does anyone have a story about a time when they received a miraculous provision? Share.
2. Read Nehemiah 1:1-2 and Nehemiah 2:1 before proceeding.
The gap between the chapters are about 4 months (Kislev [November-December] and Nisan [March-April]). What did Nehemiah do between the time he received the burden and the time he made his request to the king? Read Nehemiah 1:4. Why do you think he wait, pray and fast for so long?
3. Read Nehemiah 2:1-8. Verse 8 says that "the good hand of God" was upon Nehemiah. It is an interesting phrase. What do you think it means? Do you ever struggle to believe that the good hand of God is upon you?
4. According to Nehemiah, what sort of provisions did he ask from the king? Why does the king grant what he requests (Nehemiah 2:8)? What might this indicate about how God interacts with people, places, and events in this world?
5. We see in Nehemiah's story how God orchestrates what happens. It shows us that if we yield to God's purpose, act on the burden He gives us, He always opens the floodgates of provision for His purpose. What other lessons can we learn about how God provides from this story?
6. In verse 10, we see how some people were unhappy about what Nehemiah was about to do. What does this verse indicate when we are in pursuit of God's purpose?
7. What was the first thing that Nehemiah did when he arrived in Jerusalem and what did he find out? Read verses 10-18. How did the people respond when he shared his plan in verse 18?
8. In verses 19-20, the opposition mocked Nehemiah's plan but instead of retaliating, Nehemiah answered calmly but boldly. What does his response to opposition teach us?

WORK.

1. Like Nehemiah, there is no time like the present to pray. Spend some together in prayer to God for whatever good desires He has placed in your hearts. Ask that He might get glory and that God's people would flourish through those desires.
2. Take time to continue praying for holy discontent in your heart and have compassion on people who are far from God by praying for them and inviting them into a relationship with Jesus.