



**HOUSE** GROUPS

HOUSE Groups: Discussion Questions:

Nehemiah 1:1-11

**(Memory Verse)**

**Nehemiah 1:10** *"Now these [are] Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power, and by Your strong hand.*

**(Nehemiah 1:1-2):** **1** The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. It came to pass in the month of Chislev, [in] the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the citadel, **2** that Hanani one of my brethren came with men from Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews who had escaped, who had survived the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.

**Question:** What two things from the teaching did we list as *God's Strategy for Successful Ministry*?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Question:** Why did God allow the Babylonians to conquer Jerusalem, and the people living therein? How does sin have the power to conquer us?

**READ:** Psalm 137

**Question:** How does the Lord begin to prepare our hearts for a ministry that He is going to call us to be a part of?

**(Nehemiah 1:3-4):** **3** And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province [are] there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem [is] also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire." **4** So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned [for many] days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

**Question:** How does the report of Jerusalem's walls being destroyed, and gates being burned describe someone's spiritual condition? How should this type of report spur us to action?

**Question:** Why is it so important for a spiritual leader to identify with the needs of the people he is leading?

**Question:** What are some practical tips that leaders can use to help lead people to dependency upon Jesus, and not upon themselves?

**(Nehemiah 1:5):** **5** And I said: "I pray, LORD God of heaven, O great and awesome God, [You] who keep [Your] covenant and mercy with those who love You and observe Your commandments,

**Question:** Why is it a good idea to begin our prayer time by focusing upon the character of the Lord, and not the problem itself?

**Question:** How do the attributes of God have bearing upon what we are praying about?

(**Nehemiah 1:6-7**): **6** "please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You. Both my father's house and I have sinned. **7** "We have acted very corruptly against You, and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, nor the ordinances which You commanded Your servant Moses.

**Question:** How does confessing our sins lead to forgiveness?

**Question:** How does confessing our sins prepare us for the plans God has for us?

(**Nehemiah 1:8-11**): **8** "Remember, I pray, the word that You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, '[If] you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations; **9** 'but [if] you return to Me, and keep My commandments and do them, though some of you were cast out to the farthest part of the heavens, [yet] I will gather them from there, and bring them to the place which I have chosen as a dwelling for My name.' **10** "Now these [are] Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power, and by Your strong hand. **11** "O Lord, I pray, please let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant, and to the prayer of Your servants who desire to fear Your name; and let Your servant prosper this day, I pray, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." For I was the king's cupbearer.

**Question:** Why is it so important that the truth of God's Word should be the foundation for our prayer life?

**Question:** How does adding scripture to our prayers enhance our prayer life? How does calling upon the power of God increase the effectiveness of our prayer time?

