Leaders Like Nehemiah

Greg Kline · Nehemiah 1:2–4

INTRODUCTION

- This morning the challenge is for us all to live like leaders, to live like a leader.
- These principles of how we can be pleasing to God, they are found contained within the same principles that make for a good and strong leader.
- The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.

1 Leaders Like Nehemiah Always Pray

Nehemiah 1:4; Nehemiah 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:17

- As soon as I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days. And I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.
- And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night.
- Nehemiah prayed because he knew the God he was praying to.
- Do we have a concern that causes us to pray not only when we're in need, but are we leaders like Nehemiah when we pray to God on behalf of others.
- We need to live a life of prayer, so that it can be described of us, like we could say of Nehemiah and Paul alike, including Jesus himself, that we pray without ceasing.

2 Leaders Give Credit Where It's Due

Romans 1:21; Romans 3:23

- And the king granted me what I asked. For the good hand of my God was upon me.
- Leaders give credit where it's due, recognizing first and foremost credit belongs where? To God.
- For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him.
- They not only practice happiness and joy, but they gladly, willingly and proactively point to the God who gives them that joy.
- Imagine if you woke up with today only what you prayed for yesterday. How thankful are we?
- We need to turn back, turn towards God, pray to Him, and give credit where it's due. And that includes to other people as well.

3 Nehemiah Knew How to Properly Handle Adversity

Nehemiah 4:6; Nehemiah 4:13–14; 1 Peter 5:8

- So we built the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.
- What good leaders know is adversity doesn't end at the beginning. Sometimes halfway is the most difficult point because that's when complacency sets in.

- Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes.
- He found a role for everybody. He put them in their place, and they were prepared themselves.
- The devil is out there seeking whom he may devour. He wants you.
- Knowing the scriptures, knowing your God, and knowing his people is the first start to combating the devil and all of his scheming.

4 Like Nehemiah, We Have to Live to Serve

Nehemiah 5:14–19

- Like Nehemiah, we have to live to serve. Leaders serve.
- Leaders are in the front. They're leading everyone by example, through their work ethic, through their commitment, through their understanding of who God is and how he wants to be pleased.
- Neither I nor my brothers ate the food allowance of the governor.
- But I did not do so because of the fear of God.
- Remember for my good, O my God, all that I have done for this people.
- Christ loved us sacrificially. Nehemiah led in a sacrificial way.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Trust in God. Live like a leader. Do good anyway.**

MY NOTES