Lessons in Leadership from Nehemiah

Joshua Creel · Nehemiah 1:1–4

INTRODUCTION

- The main purposes of fatherhood is that of leadership.
- Whatever area of life you find yourself in, what is it that actually makes a good leader?

1 Good Leaders Are Compassionate

Nehemiah 1:3–4; Mark 6:34; Ephesians 5:22

- When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days. And I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.
- His people are suffering because of their own unfaithfulness to God. And yet he is still compassionate over them.
- The husband is to love his own wife as his own body. That is compassion defined.

2 Good Leaders Lead from the Knees

Nehemiah 2:4; Nehemiah 4:4–9; Job 1

- Good leaders will lead from the knees. What I mean by that is that good leaders are praying.
- As he seeks to lead his people, he's leading first by praying. Good leaders lead from the knees.
- If you're engaged in business or engaged in teaching, or engaged in any other thing, and you are seeking to lead people, you need God's help.

3 Good Leaders Plan

Nehemiah 2:12; Joshua 24:15

- He's going out all around him and seeing what is the work that needs to be done before he even begins to tell the people here is the work that needs to be done.
- As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. You know what? That takes planning.
- I'm not going to be praying with my family if I don't first purpose and intend that there will be time in this day to pray with my family.

4 Good Leaders Get Buy-In

Nehemiah 2:17–18

- Buy in is a leader saying that this cannot just be my vision. This needs to be the vision of all those who are engaged in this project.
- Then they said, Let us arise and build. So they put their hands to the good work.
- It cannot just be do it because I say do it. Let's do it because here's the value. Here's where this will take us.
- Before the first command, he says to his son, here's why you need wisdom.

5 Good Leaders Guard and Lead from the Front

Nehemiah 2:19–20

- Good leaders guard. As they're looking to lead people, they're also looking all around. Where are the dangers to the people?
- Sometimes we, as fathers and mothers, we have to do things that are not popular decisions.
- A leader leads from the front. He's setting the example.
- Neither I nor my kinsmen have eaten the governor's food allowance.
- Don't sit back there cracking the whip. Set examples. Show this is the way it should be done.

6 Good Leaders Lead Toward God

- Good leaders lead toward God. The final section of the book of Nehemiah is all about spiritual principles.
- It was seen as needed that the people hear the word of God.
- Covenant involves the blessings that God has promised his people, and covenant also involves obligations on behalf of the people.
- Good leaders want to lead the people toward God. And sometimes that means rebuking practices that are wrong and would take us away from God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Follow him. Believe in him. Believe that he has your best interest at heart. Believe that his will is the will that we need to follow. Repent of the wrongs that you've done and be baptized so that your sins may be forgiven.**

MY NOTES