

MESSAGE NOTES

“Practical Teaching for Everyday Living”

CHARACTERISTICS OF A DIFFERENCE MAKER

EPIC STORIES - NEHEMIAH

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REVIEW:

Abraham - The Principle of Believing God Anyway
How God Makes Your Faith STRONGER

Joseph - The Principle of a Greater Good
How God Shapes You for a Higher Purpose

Moses - The Principle of Personal Transformation
Humility is the Pathway to Transformation

Gideon - The Principle of the Unexpected Leader
How God Turns Your Fear and Weakness into Strength

David - The Principle of Correction
How God Rescues You When You Go Astray

Solomon - The Principle of Success that Matters
It is impossible to find MEANING apart from a relationship with Jesus.

TODAY: _____ - “I was cupbearer to the king.”

KEY PRINCIPLE: God makes you by turning what _____ into a passionate calling to help redeem a broken world.

1. EMBRACE A CERTAIN LEVEL OF _____

*In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, 2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and **I questioned them about the Jewish remnant** that survived the exile, and **also about Jerusalem**.*

*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**.” Neh. 1:1-3*

*When I heard these things, **I sat down and wept**. For some **days I mourned** and **fasted** and **prayed** before the God of heaven. Neh. 1:4*

2. PASSION LEADS YOU TO _____

*“O LORD, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands, 6 **let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night** for your servants, the people of Israel. **I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s house, have committed against you**. 7 We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses. Neh. 1:5-7*

“They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. 11 **O 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.” Neh. 1:10-11

3. _____ TO ASK FOR HELP

so the king asked me, **“Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.”**

I was very much afraid, 3 but I said to the king, **“May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”**

The king said to me, **“What is it you want?”** Neh. 2:2-4

- I WANT GO TO _____
- I NEED TO TO _____ SO I CAN TRAVEL SAFELY
- I NEED YOU TO _____ TO REBUILD THE WALLS AND GATES

4. TAKE _____

By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, **examining the walls of Jerusalem,** which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. 14 **Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate** and the King’s Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; 15 **so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall.** Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. 16 The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work. Neh. 2:14-16

Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. **Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.**” 18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me.

They replied, **“Let us start rebuilding.”** So they began this good work. Neh. 2:17-19

5. REMAIN _____

But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they **mocked and ridiculed us.** **“What is this you are doing?”** they asked. “Are you rebelling against the king?” Neh. 2:19

For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus **to do good works,** which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph. 2:10