



# BEULAH FIRST BAPTIST

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**Focus: Nehemiah - Rebuilding with God**

**Week 2: Prayer and Vision: The Foundation of Rebuilding with God**

**Introduction:** Nehemiah teaches us that when God wants to rebuild, He doesn't start with bricks. He starts with a **burden**. And the burden drives us to prayer. Before Nehemiah ever lifted a stone, before he made a plan, before he spoke to the king, he spoke to God. His story shows us that **prayer and vision are inseparable**. *Prayer shapes the vision, vision gives direction to prayer, and both prepare us to act when God opens the door.* **But here's the warning:** if you're not praying, you won't have vision. And if you're not ready with vision, you might **miss your moment** when God opens the door.

## Scripture Focus

- † Nehemiah 1:4–11 – Nehemiah's prayer of confession and intercession
- † Nehemiah 2:1–8 – Nehemiah before the king

**Key Truth:** Prayer prepares the way, vision flows from prayer, and God's hand brings success.

## I. Prayer Prepares the Way (Nehemiah 1:4–11)

- † Nehemiah's **Burden** – He wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed (1:4).
- † Nehemiah's **Prayer Pattern** –
  1. Adoration (1:5)
  2. Confession (1:6–7)
  3. Remembrance of God's promises (1:8–9)
  4. Supplication (1:10–11)

**Key Takeaway:** Prayer is not our last resort, but our first response.

## II. Vision Flows from Prayer (Nehemiah 2:1–8)

- † **Waiting Season** – Nehemiah prayed for four months before speaking to the king.
- † **Defining Moment** – A quick prayer (2:4) prepared him to answer boldly.
- † **Don't Miss Your Moment** – If you haven't prepared in prayer, you won't be ready when God opens the door.
- † **The Queen's Presence** – (2:6) God orchestrates the details we cannot see. When your moment comes, the right people will be present because God placed them there.
- † **The Bold Request:**
  1. Permission (2:5)
  2. Protection (2:7)
  3. Provision (2:8)

**Key Takeaway:** Vision without prayer is reckless; prayer without vision is incomplete.

### **III. The God Who Grants Success (Nehemiah 2:8)**

- "The king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me."
- True success rests not on our skills, but on God's hand.
- We can pray faithfully and plan carefully, but without God's hand, our work will not endure. With His hand, even the impossible becomes possible.

**Key Takeaway:** Vision without prayer is reckless; prayer without vision is incomplete.

### **Discussion and Personal Reflection**

#### **Personal**

1. When you face brokenness in your life, is prayer your first response or your last resort? Why?
2. Nehemiah wept and prayed for his people. What "broken wall" in your life needs to be covered in prayer right now?
3. Have you ever missed a "moment" because you weren't spiritually prepared? How can you avoid that in the future?

#### **Church**

1. How does prayer prepare our church for vision and rebuilding?
2. Where do you see "broken walls" in our congregation that need to be rebuilt through prayer and commitment?
3. In what ways can we, as a church, prepare so we don't miss our collective "moment" when God opens a door of opportunity?

#### **Community**

1. Nehemiah prayed for his people and then sought resources to rebuild the city. What's one area in our community that needs prayer and vision?
2. How can our church be like Nehemiah; praying, planning, and then boldly acting in ways that bless our neighbors?

#### **Homework**

- † **Memorize** Nehemiah 2:4 – "Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king..."
- † **Takeaway:** Write your own "Nehemiah prayer"- confess, depend on God, and ask Him for favor in one area of brokenness.