

Rebuild-Week 1

When You Can't Take it Anymore

THINK *it* THROUGH

Key Scripture

Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had 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." When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. Then I said: "LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 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. ..." Nehemiah 1:2-6 NIV

"... Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man." ... Nehemiah 1:11 NIV

The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it." Nehemiah 2:4-5 NIV

Start thinking.

- What breaks your heart? What might be something you can do about that?
- Read Nehemiah 1:2-6. What can you learn about starting a good work from Nehemiah's example?
- We begin the good work when we sit down to cry, kneel down to pray, and then stand up and act. Where are you in this process?
- How can you use the passions, skills, and resources God's given you to start?
- How can you encourage others to believe that, no matter how ordinary they may feel, God has good work in store for them?
- When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up? Why?
- If you could make a difference in the world, and time, money, and skill were no object, what would you want to do?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for giving us the opportunity to partner with You in Your work. Reveal to us ways we can serve You while pursuing the passions You've given us. Stay by our side as we take our first steps toward rebuilding something greater with you.... In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Spend time this week considering what you're passionate about. Pray for God's help in starting and then take a first step toward pursuing the work God's given you.