

Rely on God's Timing - Nehemiah 2:1-8

Rebuild Series

Discussion Questions

Why do you think we struggle with waiting? What emotions, attitudes, or habits do you think are most common for people in moments like that?

Have you ever gone through a season where spiritual vitality was lacking, and God felt far from you? How would you describe that spiritual season of waiting?

As way of recap what was the main idea of Nehemiah's prayer from chapter 1? What was he asking God to do?

What important detail do we learn about that Nehemiah at the end of chapter 1 that sets the scene for the narrative of chapter 2?

READ Nehemiah 2:1-8

- Why is it significant that the narrative begins by telling us what month it is?
- The king notices that Nehemiah is experiencing "sadness of the heart", and Nehemiah is filled with fear. Why do you think that is? What does this tell us about the nature of Nehemiah's request?
- In verse 4, before answering the king's question, Nehemiah "prayed to the God of heaven". What does this teach us Nehemiah believed about this moment, and God's role in it?
- Nehemiah is able to give the king specific details about what it will take to REBUILD, What does this teach us about Nehemiah and his season of waiting? IF it was God's job to work in the heart of the king, what was Nehemiah's job?

How might we apply the principle found within Nehemiah's story to our lives as we experience seasons of waiting specifically in relation to spiritual renewal?

What are some ways we might be tempted to "waste our waiting"? What does it look like for followers of Jesus to be "faithful in their waiting?"

What are spiritual disciplines, and how might they help us seek God in moments where He feels far from us?

If you, or someone you know, is growing weary, discouraged, and even hopeless from their waiting, what gospel promise, truth, or encouragement might you give them?