



## Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on February 4, 2024

### **Luke 18:1 (NASB)**

18 Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not become discouraged,

### **Nehemiah 1: 1-11 (NASB)**

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capitol, 2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, and some men from Judah came; and I asked them about the Jews who had escaped and had survived the captivity, and about Jerusalem. 3 And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity are in great distress and disgrace, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates have been burned with fire."

4 Now 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. 5 I said, "Please, Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps the covenant and faithfulness for those who love Him and keep His commandments: 6 let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open, to hear the prayer of Your servant which I am praying before You now, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Your servants, confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have committed against You; I and my father's house have sinned. 7 We have acted very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances which You commanded Your servant Moses. 8 Remember, please, the word which You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples; 9 but if you return to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though those of you who have been scattered were in the most remote part of the heavens, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place where I have chosen to have My name dwell.' 10 They are Your servants and Your people whom You redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand. 11 Please, Lord, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and the prayer of Your servants who delight to revere Your name, and please make Your servant successful today and grant him mercy before this man."

Now I was the cupbearer to the king.

## DIGGING DEEPER

Think back over the last few conversations you have had with God. What was the content of those prayers?

### **Read Luke 18:1**

Do you ever feel like giving up when you are praying for something? Tell us about it.

### **Read Nehemiah 1:1-4**

What do we learn about Nehemiah's character based on these verses?

Have you ever felt this strongly that you were like Nehemiah in vs. 4? What are some situations that could make you act in this way?

### **Read Nehemiah 1:5-7**

What attributes of God is Nehemiah relying on in his prayer?

Are there other places in scripture where someone prays confessing the sins and asking forgiveness for others?

Why was it important that the nation of Israel keep the commandments of God?

## DIGGING DEEPER

### **Read Nehemiah 1:8-11**

Does God need to be reminded of anything? If not, why does Nehemiah tell God about his promise and who the nation of Israel is?

Nehemiah finally gets to his request. What does Nehemiah's prayer teach us about our prayers?

End your time together praying. Use Nehemiah's prayer as a guideline for what to pray for. Encourage everyone to pray in your group.

## TAKING IT HOME

## PRAYER REQUEST

