



## Hindsight for 2020

If you're like most people, there are a lot of things you need to do this year. But what's the one thing you **MUST** do? What's the one thing you dare not get distracted from? Don't let new opportunities, accusations or fear distract you from the one thing you must do. Instead, learn to say with Nehemiah, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down."

### Start Talking

1. Have you ever just totally failed to complete a goal or deliver on a responsibility? What happened?
2. What's your worst procrastination story ever?

### What About You?

1. Are you more task-driven or distraction-prone? What makes you think so?
2. What kinds of distractions do you find the hardest to resist? When is it easiest for you to stay on task?
3. What is the relationship between our external tasks and our internal priorities, generally speaking?
4. How would you describe the ultimate danger of letting distraction win? What are the stakes?
5. Who in your life benefits from your ability to stay focused on the important things?



## **Look It Up**

*Read the Following Passages: Nehemiah 1: 3–4. 6: 1–4. 15–16.*

1. What was it about the wall around Jerusalem that made it the most important thing to Nehemiah?
2. What's your "wall"– the task before you that benefits those around you and serves a larger redemptive purpose?
3. What made Nehemiah's particular distraction so toxic?
4. What strategies do you see him using to avoid succumbing to the distraction?
5. What resulted from Nehemiah's decision to prioritize the ultimate over the immediate?

## **Putting It All Together**

1. What do you see as the most direct route to your preferred future? How can you prioritize it this week?
2. What would you define as the "ultimate things" in your life? The "immediate things?" How can you keep the immediate from distracting you from the ultimate?
3. What obstacles in your life can you begin to remove? What would it look like to start the process this week?
4. Are there any people in your life who keep you from being who you want to be? What would it look like to downsize those relationships?
5. Do you think it is unnecessarily mean or harsh to downsize toxic relationships? Why or why not?
6. What would it feel like to begin 2021 after a year of prioritizing ultimate things?

