



FUSION

CHURCH OF MADISON

Sermon Guide for Tribes

June 19, 2022

Message Title: Ask Me If I Care

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-11 [ESV]

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, 2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. 3 And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

4 As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. 5 And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 6 let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. 7 We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. 8 Remember the word that 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 your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' 10 They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. 11 O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man."

Now I was cupbearer to the king.

Points of Consideration:

Nehemiah Cared for the King (v. 11)

Nehemiah Cared for His Homeland (vs. 2-3)

Nehemiah Cared Enough to Weep and Pray (vs. 4-10)

Nehemiah Cared Enough to Work (Chapters 2-4)

Discussion Questions:

Nehemiah cared for His king and his homeland during a time of destruction and exile. What are our priorities in times of turmoil and strife? Is our first reaction to fear and worry, or do we turn our attention to God and His kingdom?

Nehemiah's first response to his circumstances was to weep and pray. In other words, Nehemiah was broken and appealed to God before appealing to man's wisdom. Do you tend to appeal to man's wisdom before admitting your own brokenness and bringing a matter before the Lord?

Nehemiah not only appealed to God, but he also acted in obedience to God's word. He did so even at significant risk to his safety and security. Were there times when God's word was clear, and you were unwilling or too fearful to obey?

Prayer Guide for Tribes

You Turn Ministries

- PRAISE NOTE: Over a month ago, new believers from the Mitundu area of Malawi came together for a baptismal service...300 people were baptized!
- You Turn's Malawi staff are preparing for 8 mission teams over the next 12 weeks. Pray for the Lord to go before them to do a great work in the lives of lost villagers who have yet to hear the Gospel, to be with the team members as they faithfully share, to bless the new churches that will be planted, and to bring about an eternal impact on US church partners as they serve alongside You Turn.
- Soccer league: pray for You Turn's soccer league as it brings hundreds of people in to hear the Gospel from pastoral students who preach to the crowds at halftime.
 - o Thousands have come to Christ and five churches have been planted through the soccer ministry since February!
 - o Pray for the end-of-the-year tournament in June. The Gospel will be preached in an actual stadium filled with hundreds, and potentially even thousands, of people!
- Pray for nine pastor training schools, and over 200 students, who are being trained to plant churches over the next two years. A school in Chipata, Zambia is hosting their first graduation June 1st with a class of 38 students!
- Pray for the over 80 orphans that You Turn supports as they finish their last few weeks of school for the year and take very important exams. Join with You Turn as they pray that God would develop these students into strong, Bible-believing adults that would greatly impact their villages!
- You Turn is in the process of harvesting soy beans and peanuts at their farm. Pray for a great harvest and subsequent sale to provide resources to feed more orphans.

Church Plants!

- Hispanic Church Plant
 - o We are currently working with area missionaries in the Stone Mountain Baptist Association to plant a Hispanic church in our facilities here at Fusion! Be in prayer for a planter to be raised up and for God to open doors amongst the Hispanic community in Morgan County.
- Walton County Church Plant
 - o Pastor Matt is collaborating with local pastors who have a heart for church planting to place a church in the Walton County area. Please pray that God would raise up a planter and a core group of church members and that God would open doors in the near future!

Life Community Church, Weymouth, MA

- OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED!- The Weymouth Parish of Life Community Church officially launched Easter Sunday! We praise God to see the plan for this parish come to fruition after this year-long launch process
- A building- currently, LCC Weymouth is meeting in a local community center as a mobile church. Having to borrow a space presents many inconveniences for all that the church would like to do and be. They are already praying that God would provide for them a permanent place to do ministry.
- Recovering community- God is at work in Weymouth! LCC is experiencing radical life change in its members. They are surrounded by a massive community of addicts undergoing rehabilitation and recovery, and many of these individuals are finding healing at the foot of the cross! Pray specifically for Jake, Eric, Lucas, and Derek. These men found Christ in recovery and are leaders in this parish, passionately pursuing intimacy in their walk. Also pray for Kevin, a man who was saved just two weeks ago! He is still in recovery and is surrounded by men battling addiction, and he needs your prayer for strength and resilience.
- **Mobilize 2022- Fusion is planning a mission trip to Weymouth the week of July 18th-24th. In the meantime, encourage prayer over the trip: for safety, gospel conversations, or opportunities to further the work of LCC in the Boston area!**

Source of Light Ministries

- SOL started a new branch in Costa Rica. The team in Costa Rica will distribute discipleship courses throughout the country and seek ways to share the Gospel with lost people.
- Four missionaries with SOL went through a support-raising course and are actively raising support. Those missionaries are Brian Thigpen, Bruce Dare, Johnathan Wideman, and Ben Doomy. Pray that God would supply the needed funds for their ministries.
- Ukraine- SOL is running a relief initiative for Ukrainian refugees. Many of these refugees are fleeing into Romania, where SOL is funding a local church that has a summer camp facility. The church is providing housing, food, diapers, beds, clothing and transportation, and information. Pray for these fundraising efforts!
- SOL also just held trainings for directors for three new branches starting in Spain, Mexico, and Peru. Pray for these branches as they distribute discipleship courses and bring the Gospel to lost people.
- New courses- SOL is currently writing new discipleship courses for children! All of their coursework is used worldwide, so praise God for the opportunity for these new materials to open doors for children all over the world to be raised in the knowledge of God!

FCA

- As the ministry of FCA continues to grow in our 5 county area, pray for more people willing to Pray, Serve, and Give toward their efforts!
- Pray for FCA camps coming up this summer, and talk to Jason or Traci if you're interested in serving, giving, or signing up!

Also consider planning times of fellowship this summer that you can enjoy with your tribe!

