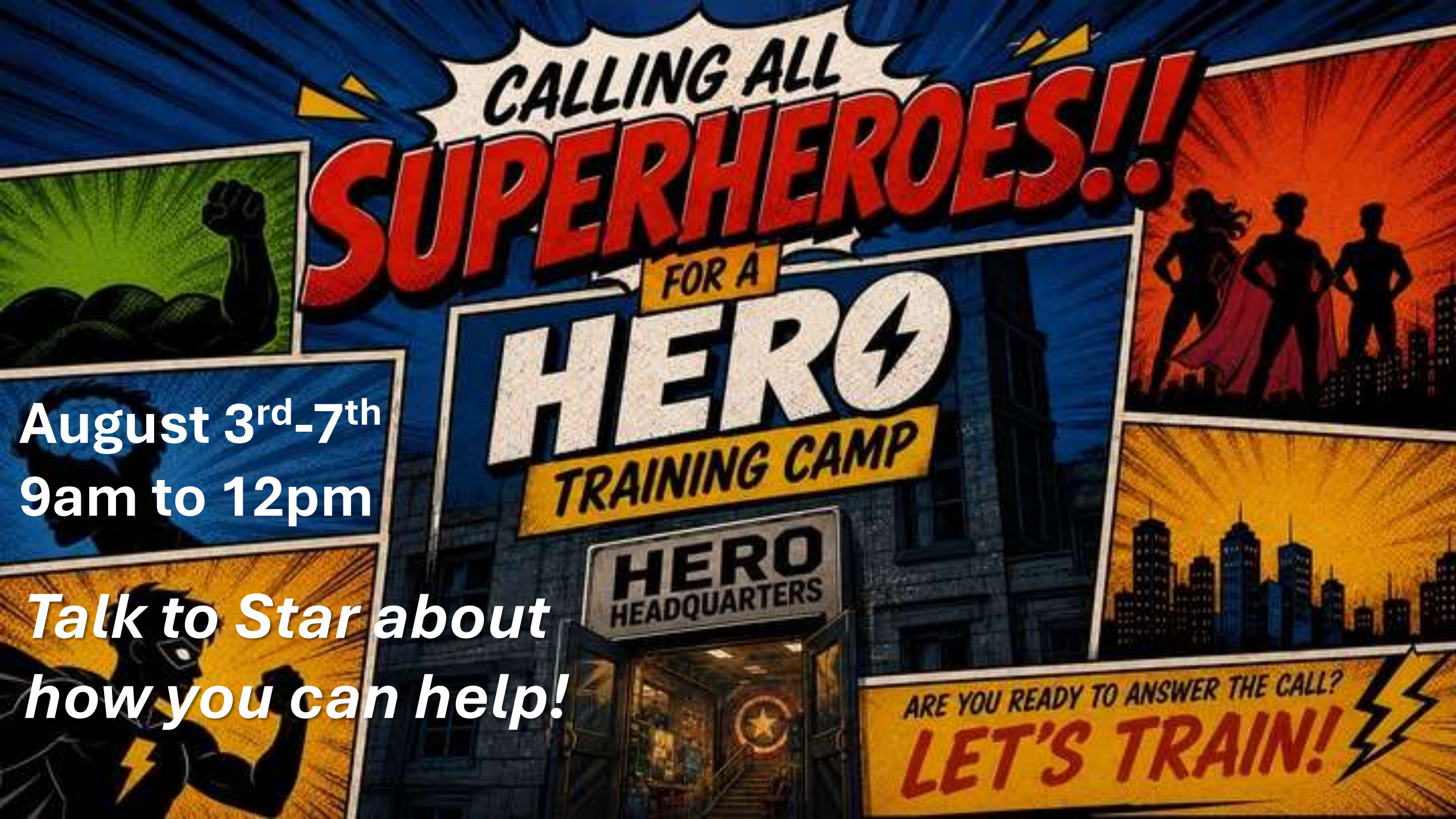


Good Morning!

- *connection cards in the bulletin*

Summer Sunday Schedule

- Aug 2nd Small Group Sunday
- Aug 9th @ Stillwater Church
- Aug 16th Guest: Pastor Martin Mwirigi



CALLING ALL
SUPERHEROES!!

FOR A

HERO

TRAINING CAMP

HERO
HEADQUARTERS

**August 3rd-7th
9am to 12pm**

***Talk to Star about
how you can help!***

ARE YOU READY TO ANSWER THE CALL?

LET'S TRAIN!



Adventure Men's Generalist Club Presents...

The Tortilla Workshop

Tuesday Aug 18th 6pm

A blacksmith is forging a piece of metal in a furnace. The furnace is filled with bright orange and yellow flames. Sparks are flying out of the furnace, creating a shower of light. The background is dark and industrial, with various metal parts and tools visible.

Character

forged in fire

Character Trait

Resolve



Resolve

Firm or unwavering adherence to one's purpose
(*Merriam-Webster*)



Resolve

Nehemiah
Rebuilding under Resistance



Nehemiah get's bad news...

Nehemiah 1:1–3

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.” ESV



Two keys to living with Resolve:

- Knowing and Believing God's Character

Nehemiah prays...

Nehemiah 1:4–11

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.

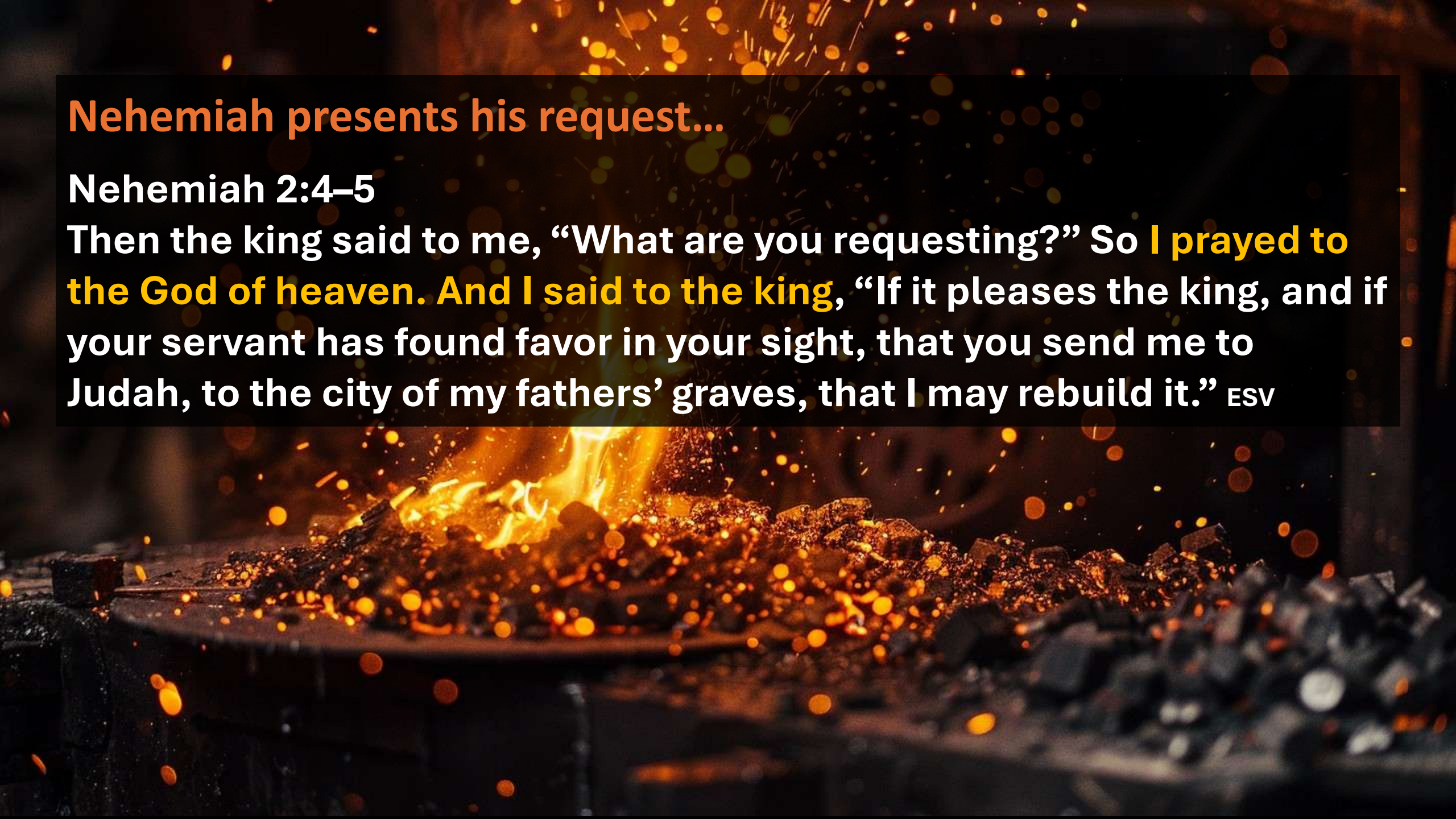
⁵ And I said, “O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel 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. ESV

Nehemiah prays...

Nehemiah 1:4–11

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.”

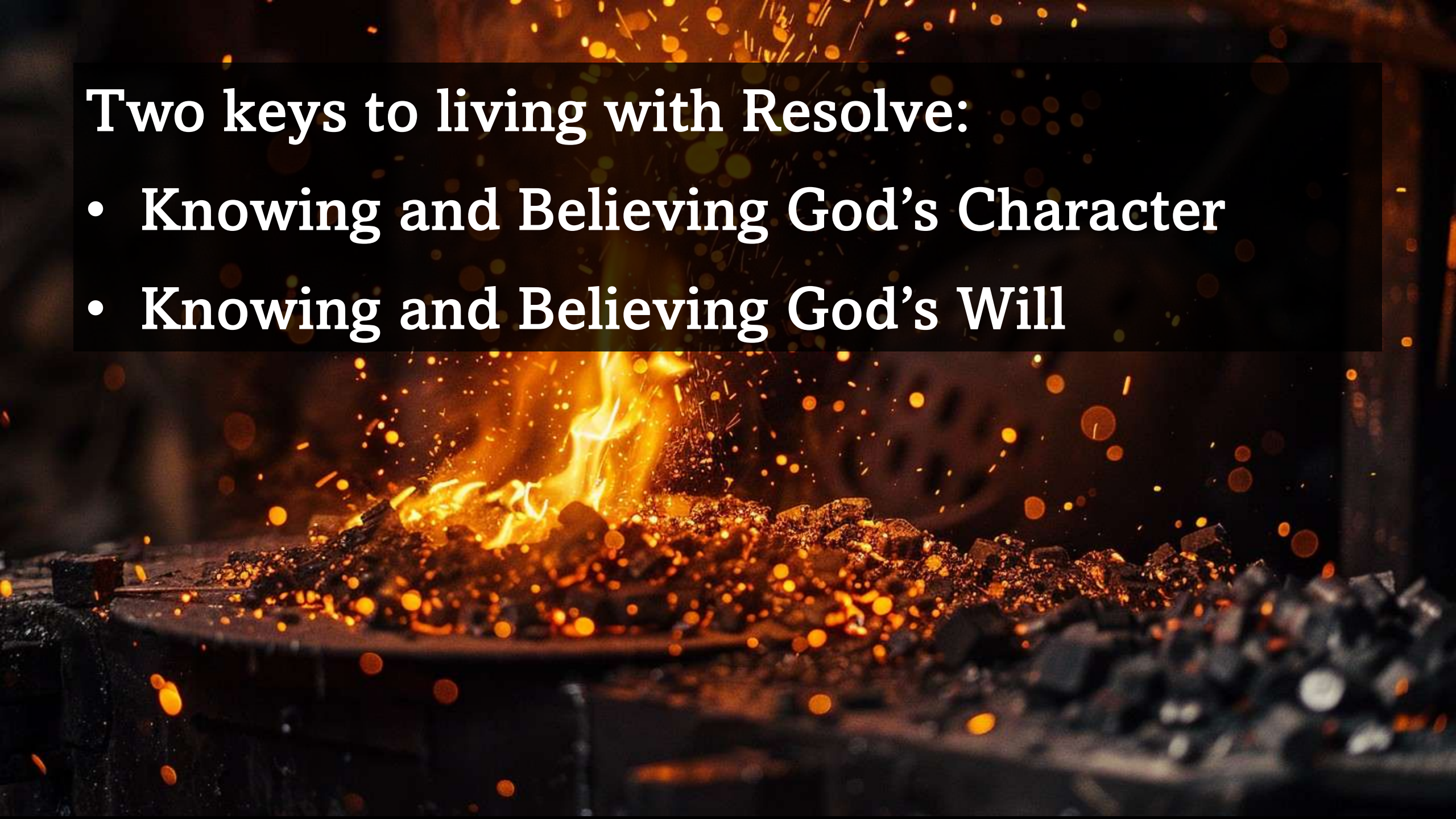
Now I was cupbearer to the king. ESV



Nehemiah presents his request...

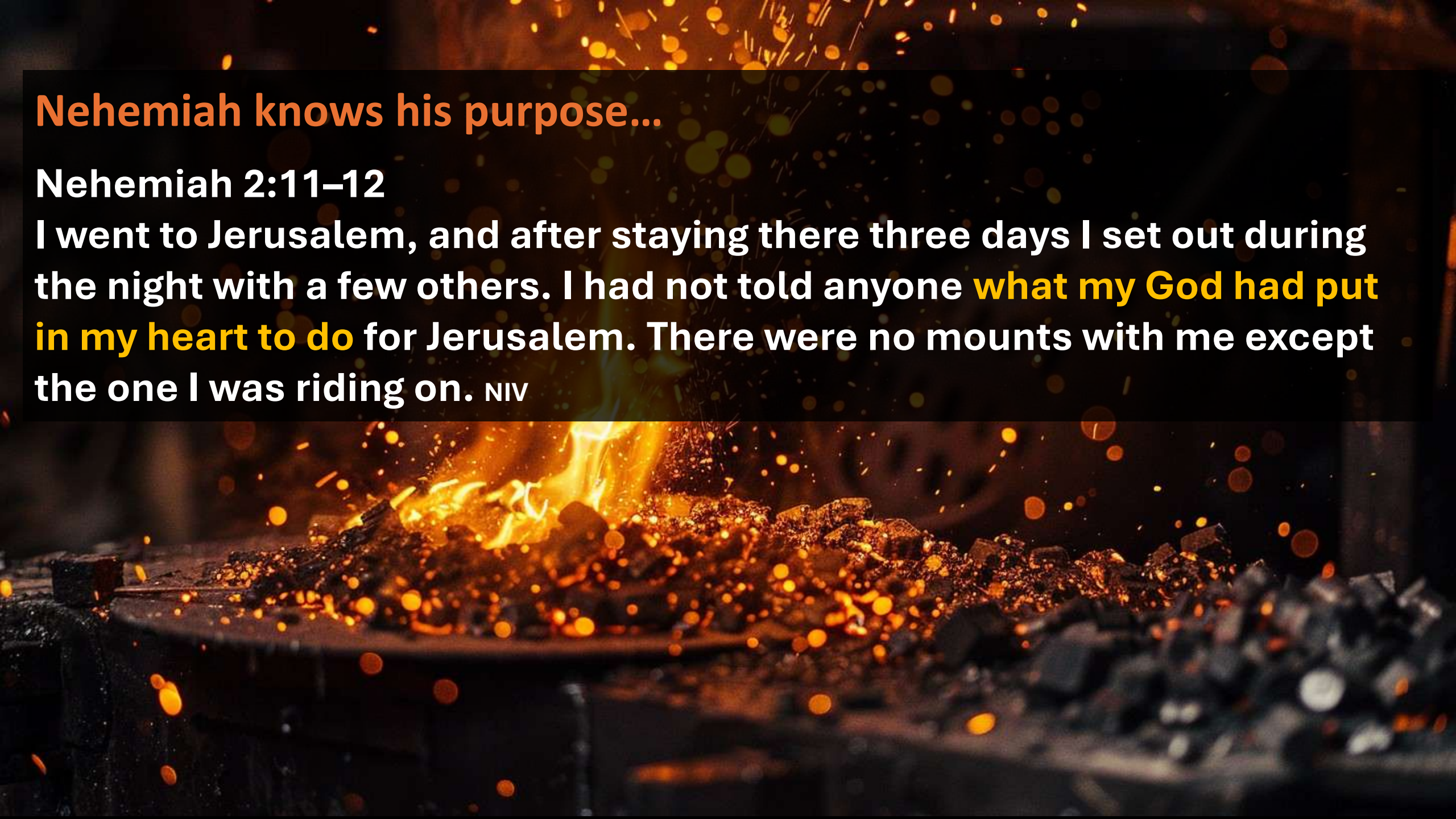
Nehemiah 2:4–5

Then the king said to me, “What are you requesting?” So **I prayed to the God of heaven. And I said to the king**, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ graves, that I may rebuild it.” ESV

The background of the slide is a dramatic, high-contrast photograph of a blacksmith's anvil. A bright, intense fire is burning on the anvil, sending a shower of glowing orange and yellow sparks flying upwards and outwards. The sparks are captured in mid-air, creating a sense of motion and heat. The anvil itself is dark and metallic, with some visible texture. The overall atmosphere is one of power, transformation, and intense heat.

Two keys to living with Resolve:

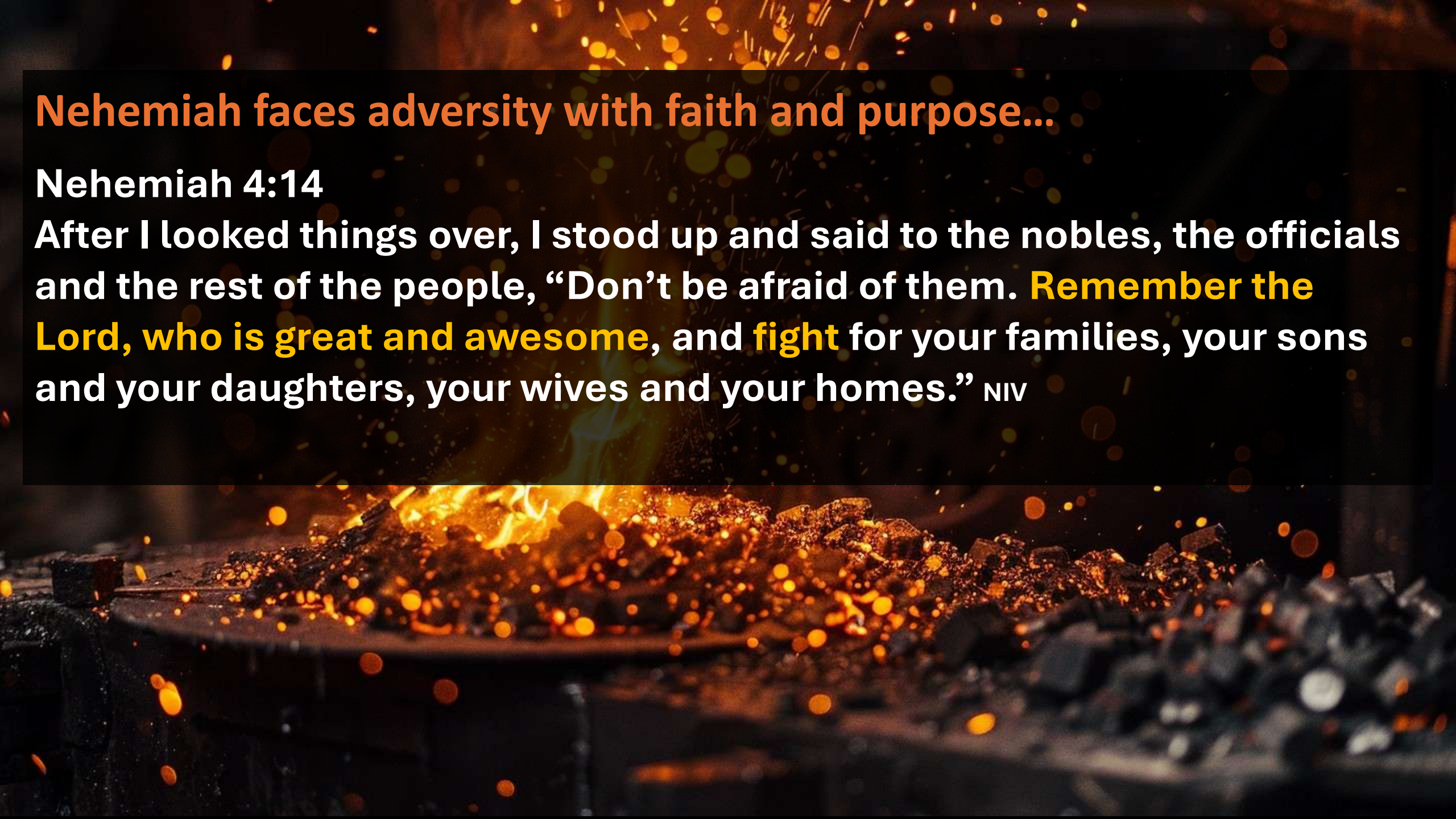
- Knowing and Believing God's Character
- Knowing and Believing God's Will



Nehemiah knows his purpose...

Nehemiah 2:11–12

I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone **what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. NIV**



Nehemiah faces adversity with faith and purpose...

Nehemiah 4:14

After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.” NIV



Kerstin Grant

A story of trusting God in Cambodia



Resolve

*What's something you **know** God has called you to?*

Does knowing you're called help you persevere to do it?

