

Changing A Generation With Confident Leaders

"Although we are of the same flesh and blood as our fellow Jews and though our children are as good as theirs, yet we have to subject our sons and daughters to slavery. Some of our daughters have already been enslaved, but we are powerless, because our fields and our vineyards belong to others." Nehemiah 5:5 (NIV)

Great leaders don't set out to be a leader...they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role—always about the goal.

Nehemiah himself returned from exile.

Nehemiah returned from exile with the purpose of rebuilding the wall.

Remember Nehemiah secured full backing from King Artaxerxes before his return to Jerusalem.

- A. We learn that prayer and fasting works in God's realm.
- B. We learn to have our hearts fixed on blessing others.
- C. We learn that God will touch the hearts of the people with compassion.

Two footnotes:

- Nehemiah decides to help the poor.
- Nehemiah enemies continued to oppose him.

"Permission and provision can come from the strangest sources. Whoever or whatever struggle we encounter God will open the door."

Napoleon Bonaparte— "A leader is a dealer in hope."

Consider the debt, the oppression, the burden that was placed on the people.

This is why one of our core values is, "We are stronger together than apart."

1. We should be compelled to assist one another. (v9)
 - Stop comparison
 - Stop complaining
 - Stop confusion
2. We should have the compassion that everyone is valued
 - Systems of government should work for the people. (v11)
 - Systems should work to restore and rebuild the people before the work gets started. (v12)