Accelerated Success: Partnership with God Eduan Els 22/07/2018

1. PARTNERING WITH GOD

- **1.1.** It is important to recognize that Nehemiah partnered with God and together they went on this journey and process to rebuild walls.
- **1.2.** God wants to partner with us in our lives.
- **1.3.** Communication or prayer is an important aspect of partnering with God.

Nehemiah 1:4 'When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.'

2. WHEN SHOULD I PRAY

- **2.1.** It is always a good time to pray.
- **2.2.** We can talk to God throughout our day.
- **2.3.** We should be connected with God. Prayer should be a first priority and not a last resort.

3. WHY SHOULD I PRAY?

- **3.1.** It shows I'm depending on God.
- **3.2.** It lightens my load.

Isaiah 40:31 ' But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] Will gain new strength and renew their power; They will lift up their wings [and rise up close to God] like eagles [rising toward the sun]; They will run and not become weary, They will walk and not grow tired. '

3.3. It releases God's power.

Jeremiah 33:3 'God says, "Call to me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you know not."

4. HOW SHOULD I PRAY?

- **4.1.** I should base my request on God's character.
- **4.2.** I should shake of the weight of sin by confessing it.

James 5:16 'Therefore, confess your sins to one another [your false steps, your offenses], and pray for one another, that you may be healed and restored. The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much

[when put into action and made effective by God--it is dynamic and can have tremendous power].'

4.3. I should declare the promises of God.

Nehemiah 1: 8-9 Remember the instructions you gave to your servant Moses saying `If you are unfaithful I will scatter you among the nations. But if you return to me and obey my commands then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon I will gather them from there and bring them to the place they've chosen .. in my name."

4.4. I should be very specific in what I ask for.

Nehemiah 1:10 "They are your servants, your people, whom you've redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this, your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favour in the presence of this man."

Sermon Discussion Guide

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OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

- 1. Do you understand prayer, or is it just something you know you should do?
- 2. When you are faced with difficult decisions, do you tend to make prayer a first priority or a last resort?
- 3. Why do YOU pray?