



## MESSAGE NOTES

PRACTICAL TEACHING FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Title: **See The Vision**  
Series: **Moving Forward Together**  
Text: **Nehemiah 1:1-11**  
Speaker: **Kevin T. Hardy** Date: **January 4, 2026**

Welcome to 2026! Let's not just turn the page, but let's \_\_\_\_\_, REFLECT and \_\_\_\_\_.

- Where have we been?
- What has God been doing among us?
- And where is God leading us next?

**Are we moving forward with God—or just moving forward?**

**Why Nehemiah?**

**Who was Nehemiah?**

- Nehemiah was not a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nehemiah was not a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nehemiah was not a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Nehemiah was a \_\_\_\_\_!
- Nehemiah was a **deeply** \_\_\_\_\_ **man** who knew God and knew God's Word.
- Nehemiah was an \_\_\_\_\_ **man** serving an extraordinary God.
- Nehemiah was a \_\_\_\_\_!

Which is why this book is one of the greatest biblical case studies on spiritual **leadership**.

Paraphrase based on Charles R. Swindoll, Hand Me Another Brick:

“Nehemiah stands as a **classic example of leadership** because his life shows us how a leader must begin **with clear vision from God**, remain **rooted in prayer**, face opposition with courage, and **pursue the task** with steadfast perseverance. He didn't just dream of rebuilding Jerusalem's walls—he prayed for God's guidance, he boldly asked for the king's favor, he confronted discouragement and ridicule, and he stayed true to the task until the work was finished. In Nehemiah we see that great leadership is not built on position or popularity, but on a vision that is sustained by dependence on God and unwavering resolve.”

## Nehemiah's Place in God's Story

- \_\_\_\_\_ Historical Book of the Old Testament
- Written around \_\_\_\_\_
- God's people had been living in captivity—first under Babylon, then under Persia. Over time, God raised up leaders to bring His people back home in waves: \_\_\_\_\_, Zerubbabel, and \_\_\_\_\_.

### HOW DO YOU GET A VISION?

#### 1. VISION STARTS WITH A \_\_\_\_\_

*During the month of Chislev in the twentieth year, when I was in the fortress city of Susa, 2 Hanani, **one of my brothers, arrived with men from Judah, and I questioned them about Jerusalem and the Jewish remnant** that had survived the exile. 3 They said to me, "The remnant in the province, who survived the exile, **are in great trouble and disgrace. Jerusalem's wall has been broken down, and its gates have been burned.**" CSB (Ne 1:1–3).*

### How do you get a BURDEN from God?

- Cultivate a Deep Compassionate \_\_\_\_\_ for God's Work and People
- Willing to \_\_\_\_\_ to see God's Will Accomplished

#### 2. LET THE BURDEN DRIVE YOU TO YOUR \_\_\_\_\_

*When I heard these words, **I sat down and wept.** I mourned for a number of days, **fasting and praying** before the God of the heavens.( Ne 1:4).*

- \_\_\_\_\_ **WHO IS GOD**

*LORD, the **God of the heavens, the great and awe-inspiring God** who keeps his gracious covenant with those who love him and keep his commands, 6 let your eyes be open and your ears be attentive to hear your servant's prayer that I now pray to you day and night for your servants, the Israelites. (Ne 1:5–6).*

- **CONFESSING** \_\_\_\_\_

***I confess the sins we have committed against you. Both I and my father's family have sinned.** 7 We have acted corruptly toward you and have not kept the commands, statutes, and ordinances you gave your servant Moses. (Ne 1:6–7).*

- **PRAYS THE** \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 8-10)
- **MAKE A PETITION FOR** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please, Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant and to that of your servants who delight to revere your name. **Give your servant success today, and grant him compassion in the presence of this man.** (Ne 1:11).*