

In today's text Nehemiah teaches us five principles we must have to protect God's people, advance the gospel, and summon others to do the same.

1. Loving _____
2. Hearty _____
3. Resolute _____
4. Meticulous _____
5. Supernatural _____

Group Questions

1. When Nehemiah learned of the sad state of Jerusalem, he wept, mourned, and fasted. Do reports of the sad state of a church affect you the same way? Why or why not?
2. How do you think Nehemiah became a person who was so concerned about Jerusalem? What can we do to increase our personal investment in spiritual matters?
 - a. What things in your life should concern you more than they do?
3. How do you think Nehemiah became someone who instinctively responded to challenges by crying out to the Lord? What can we do to develop a habit of prayer?
 - a. What things in your life are there about which you should be crying out to the Lord *and* making plans for the opportunity you may get to address the situation?
4. If the Lord gave you an opportunity to advance His kingdom, what aspects of "staying in the Persian palace" would be most tempting? How can you put that enticement in the proper perspective?
5. When you come into a new situation like the one awaiting Nehemiah in Jerusalem, do you have a tendency to go straight to work, or do you have the patience to survey the situation first?
6. To what did Nehemiah appeal when he sought to motivate the people in Jerusalem to join him in the rebuilding of the walls? How does that still function as a motivation today?
7. How would you characterize Nehemiah's response to Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem? To whom should we respond in like manner today?