

Nehemiah: A People

Nehemiah 2:11-18

We're looking at the life of Nehemiah: a person who aligned with God's heart, followed God's plan, and formed God's people into a community that would change their culture. A person who saw brokenness, and chose to build. Today we're focusing on Nehemiah's alignment with the Lord's people - How he called others alongside, cast vision, and carried out God's purpose.

Nehemiah 2:11-15

So I came to Jerusalem. When I had been there for three days, I got up during the night, along with a few men who were with me. But I did not tell anyone what my God was putting on my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no animals with me, except for the one I was riding.

I proceeded through the Valley Gate by night, in the direction of the Well of the Dragons and the Dung Gate, inspecting the walls of Jerusalem that had been breached and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. I passed on to the Gate of the Well and the King's Pool, where there was not enough room for my animal to pass with me.

I continued up the valley during the night, inspecting the wall. Then I turned back and came to the Valley Gate, and so returned.

Nehemiah 2:16

The officials did not know where I had gone or what I had been doing, for up to this point I had not told any of the Jews or the priests or the nobles or the officials or the rest of the workers.

Nehemiah 2:17-18

Then I said to them, "You see the problem that we have: Jerusalem is desolate and its gates are burned. Come on! Let's rebuild the wall of Jerusalem so that this reproach will not continue."

Then I related to them how the good hand of my God was on me and what the king had said to me. Then they replied, "Let's begin rebuilding right away!" So they readied themselves for this good project.

Antoine de Sait-Exupery, Author

If you want to build a ship, don't drum up the men to gather wood, divide the work, and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea.