



Week 1 | Nehemiah | August 7

Key Focus: We should be making God famous for God's mission to fix a broken world.

Opening Up:

- Are you more likely to express fight or flight as a response? How do circumstance effect your impulse? (i.e., if you are normally non-confrontational what sets you off?)
- Do you see evidence of God chasing after you in your life? How so?
- In your faith do you respond more with fight or flight? How does this change with time and circumstances?

Reference: Nehemiah 1 and 2

Discuss:

1. In 1:1-3 Nehemiah hears about how bad things are for God's people. In verse 11 of chapter 1 Nehemiah prays on behalf of God's reputation. God's mission is hidden from the broken world when God's family is broken. Do you think God needs new PR? In what ways? How can we do a better job of representing God to the world?
2. In Nehemiah's prayer in 1:5 he puts God at the center. What is different about your life when God is at the center? What happens when God is not at the center?
3. When Nehemiah confesses sin before God in 1:6 he is not trying to convince God of his worthiness. Have you ever tried to woo God in prayer? Why is that?
4. People learn about God by watching his family on mission. God's family is to be a blessing. Isaiah 52:7 says that Christians are to publish good news. Christians are to publish peace, happiness, and salvation. How can the church be writing good news stories in Albuquerque? What good news stories have been or are being written? What good news story do you need in your life right now?
5. Nehemiah was cupbearer to the king. He found the intersection between God's plan, his place, and the worlds pain. Where is this intersection for you?
6. Nehemiah prayed for 3 to 4 months about his missionary calling. What can you learn from him? How do we need to pray for you?
7. We should be making God famous for God's mission to fix the broken world. How can you do that this week?
8. Nehemiah was a professional guy working in a secular world and he found a way to meet the secular and the sacred for the common good. What can you learn from that? Do you feel inspired to take action? How so?
9. Pray.