

REBUILDING THROUGH PRAYER

NEHEMIAH 1:5-11

I. THE PROBLEM OF A NATION: **God's reputation is _____.**

And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire." As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven. 1:3-4

▶▶ **WHAT MAKES YOU WEEP?**

II. THE PRAYER FOR A NATION: "**_____, Lord!**"

ADORATION: Praise to God

And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments ..." v. 5

CONFESSION: Repent to God

"... let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses." vv. 6-7

THANKSGIVING: Gratitude to God

"Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. vv. 8-10

SUPPLICATION: Requests to God

O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man." v. 11a

▶▶ **WHAT DO YOU PRAY FOR?**

III. THE PERSON GOD LISTENS TO: _____

Now I was cupbearer to the king. v. 11b

Head screwed on

Heart-formed

Hands-on

▶▶ **WILL YOU BE THAT PERSON?**

REBUILDING
A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

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HOME GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read Nehemiah 1:5-11. How would you describe Nehemiah's relationship with and attitude toward God?

2. What fears did Nehemiah have about playing a part in what made him weep? How did he present those worries to the Lord in his prayer?

3. What costs was Nehemiah willing to pay to be a person available for God to work through?

4. Read Proverbs 21:1. Where did Nehemiah place his confidence, and why? Did that mean he no longer feared what the repercussions for himself might be?

5. True prayer keeps your heart and your head in balance so you aren't impatient to run ahead of the Lord and ruin everything. As you've prayed in the past, how have you seen the burden of what you weep for become larger, and seen your vision of what needs to be done become clearer?

6. How can you follow Nehemiah's example as you deal with issues that make you weep? What is one thing you can do this week to be a person who is available to play a part as God leads?

"If God is going to answer prayer, He must start by working in the one doing the praying! ... The greater part of Nehemiah's prayer was devoted to confession of sin. The God who promised blessing and chastening also promised forgiveness if His people would repent and turn back to Him (Deut 30; 1 Kin 8:31-53). It was this promise that Nehemiah was claiming as he prayed for himself and the nation. God's eyes are upon His people and His ears are open to their prayers (1 Kin 8:29; 2 Chr 7:14) ... Too often we plan our projects and then ask God to bless them, but Nehemiah didn't make that mistake. He sat down and wept, knelt down and prayed, and then stood up and worked because he knew he had the blessing of the Lord on what he was doing."

WARREN WEIRSBÉ

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events. They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

TEXT "CCBCSHARE" TO 94090 FOR YOUR NEXT STEP. If you're connected, serving and growing, your next step is to think about who God might be putting in your life to share your faith with or disciple. Text "CCBCShare" to 94090 and we'll send you a few ideas for getting started.

WE'RE HAVING A NIGHT OF PRAYER TOMORROW, JAN. 25. Prayer is a big part of our new series in Nehemiah and that's why we want to give you a chance to take part in the practice! Stop by the Sanctuary to pray anytime between 6 and 8 p.m. tomorrow. We'll have a prayer guide that you can use and you'll be welcome to stay however long you like.

RESILIENT & RENEWED MEETS THIS TUESDAY, JAN. 26. Ladies, join us for a virtual gathering and honest conversation this Tuesday from 7 to 8 p.m. Together with our Women in the Workplace ministry, we'll be talking about how God fuels resilience, what makes godly perseverance unique and how we can move from discouraged to renewed in our spheres of influence in 2021. Learn more about the event and sign up at www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

THIS WEDNESDAY WE'RE HAVING A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE. If you'd like to learn more about Christ Chapel's commitment to life issues, join our Local Outreach Director Lance Cashion and John Stonestreet, president of the Colson Center for Christian Worldview, online this Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. They'll be discussing how the Church can share a clear vision for life and what COVID has revealed about our culture, plus they'll answer your questions! Head to www.ccbcfamily.org/events to sign up and join them.

RENOVATE IS BACK THIS WEDNESDAY. Whether you're a young adult in college, living the post-grad life or venturing into young married life, come find community at Renovate. They're making their 2021 debut this Wednesday, Jan. 27 with a tailgate dinner at 6 p.m. and worship inside the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. Learn more at www.renovateftw.org.

PARENTS, THE TOPICS IN PARENTING CONFERENCE HAPPENS THIS SATURDAY, JAN. 30. Whether you join us in person or online, don't miss this year's conference which is all about encouraging you in your parenting and helping your family flourish! Sign-ups are still open, so head to www.ccbcfamily.org/events to read up on this year's topics and save your spot for the day.

LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY IN 2021? WE'RE HERE TO HELP. Just go to www.ccbcfamily.org/homegroups this week and answer a few questions. We'll do the rest to find you a home group of Christ Chapelites your age and in your season of life. Whether you'd prefer in person or online, we'll help you get the community you've been waiting for.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—just text "CCBCFW" to 77977 to get started.

