

SERMON SERIES: Nehemiah
SPEAKER: Scott Beckenhauer
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Key Line

The process of rebuilding begins with the willingness to get started.

Introduction

Take some to discuss how you would answer this question: "Have you ever known that something needs to be done and you have procrastinated about doing it?"

When something needs to be done, what makes it so hard to get started?

Seek the Word

Read Nehemiah Chapters 1 and 2.

What does Nehemiah learn about the situation in Jerusalem?

What is his response and where does he turn?

What does it take to have your heart broken for what breaks God's?

When you see something broken how would you go about seeking God's vision for the repair work?

Scott reminded us that we do not have to stay in something that is broken.

Do you think we are always aware of that?

What does it take for us to "see" something we have been overlooking?

What did Nehemiah have to do in order to return to Jerusalem?

How did God use Nehemiah's circumstances for His own purposes?

Have you been able to see that in your own life at times?

When Nehemiah had God's perspective for the vision, he had to face the king and make his request.

Do you think that would that have necessarily been an easy thing to do?

What does it demonstrate about Nehemiah's faith and relationship with God that he went with his request to the king?

Once Nehemiah had the king's permission and help what did he do?

When you have the vision of God, it is time to get started.

How does having God's vision for the work to be done help you get past the hurdle of taking that first step to get going?

Talk About It

Easter is April 16th and Lent begins on March 1.

Discuss the idea of Lent in your group.

- What is each person's background or knowledge of it?
- How do you relate giving something up to gaining something instead?
- What will you gain by giving something up?

The challenge for Lent.

1. Identify something to give up - or maybe you need to add something - to place your rebuilding process on the cornerstone of Christ. (Eph. 2:19-20)

Use these questions to determine a broken area that needs work.

- a. Is there anything that is holding you back from moving forward in your relationship with God?
 - b. Is there a sin in your life that is in need of repair?
 - c. Is there an addiction or bad habit that you need to address?
 - d. Is there a character trait that needs correction?
 - e. Is there a relationship that needs reconciliation?
 - f. Is there an action God has called you to take and you have not done it?
2. Tell someone about it.
Use your small group as a whole or share in smaller groups of 2 or 3.

Bible Reading Plan

Join us as a church family as we read through the Old and New Testaments. Download the reading plan at calvary.ch/readthebible/ or on the Calvary.ch App