

SERMON NOTES

January 18 2026

A Study in Nehemiah - Spiritual Tools to Tackle a Tough Job

Nehemiah 2:1-10

Nehemiah's real job was not being a cupbearer. It was God's _____ on his life.

What were the tools required to get the job done?

1. Waiting

Between ch. 1 when he heard about the broken walls of Jerusalem in the month of _____

_____ and ch. 2 in the month of _____ was _____ months.

He spent that time _____, _____ and _____ over the situation.

2. Prayer

He learned to _____ over his homeland. He learned to _____ on behalf of his people. He experienced how _____ gave him more time being in God's presence. He was waiting for God to act.

Vs 1 - *"I took the wine and gave it to the king. Notice the next sentence. "I had not been sad in the presence of the king."*

Being sad in the presence of the Persian king was a crime punishable by _____.

Vs 2 - *"why does your face look so _____ when you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of heart."*

God had a plan to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem and Nehemiah realized he was the one to do it. But he could not leave his job as the _____ to the king.

3. Trusting

Can you trust God with your _____?

Dr. Spenser Johnson "Who Moved My Cheese" "What would you do if you weren't afraid."

Nehemiah trusted God in an impossible and dangerous situation. Faith replaced fear. Can you trust God in your impossible situation?

4. Planning.

Nehemiah 2:5-8. *"I said to the king, "If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it." Then the king said to me, the queen sitting beside him, "How long will your journey be, and when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me, and I gave him a definite time. And I said to the king, "If it please the king, let letters be given me for the governors of the provinces beyond the River, that they may allow me to pass through until I come to Judah..."*

This was deliberate planning. We are called to _____ and to _____.

Nehemiah gave him a _____ for how long he'd be gone.

He asked for _____ passage.

He asked for _____ to build.

Vs. 8. *"And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?..."* W

5. Testifying.

Nehemiah 2:8: *"...And because the gracious hand of my God was upon me, the king granted my requests."* Only _____ could have brought about such a dramatic change in the king's mind and the cupbearer's destiny.

Psalms 118:23 *"The Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes."*