

Nehemiah's Prayer

Nehemiah 1.5-11

Sept. 8-9

Introduction:

I. Nehemiah's C_____ results in a clear vision (5-6a)

A. He prays with d_____

God is m_____ and God is _____

B. He prays with d_____

He prays p_____, p_____ and p_____

II. Nehemiah's C_____ reveals no blame shifting (6b-10)

A. His confession c_____ his sin

B. His confession c_____ God's grace

III. Nehemiah's C_____ reflects divine dependence (11)

A. He asks to be heard by G_____

B. He asks to be heard by the K_____

Conclusion:

Questions for reflection or small group discussion

- Can you find a Bible dictionary or handbook and read a little of the historical background to Nehemiah?
- You might also read the book of Ezra or at least a little bio of Ezra. Give special attention to Ezra 4.7-23.
- Compare and contrast the historical exile of the people of Israel to Babylon in 587 BC with some who have been "scattered" from the church of Jesus Christ today.
- How do you pray for our congregation? What attributes of God need most to be displayed among us just now?
- How often do you pray for our congregation? How do your prayers reflect your passion or love for our congregation?
- Is your personality type willing to "wait" on the Lord? How so?
- Can you recall other prayers from scripture that required great patience?
- What is the difference between commands, decrees, and laws in Nehemiah's time? How does this apply to us?
- Do we have "congregational" sin that needs to be confessed?
- What are your/our sacred cows? Condoned sin? Compromised ethics?
- Where does Nehemiah find encouragement in light of this sin?
- How do our church mission and vision align with the Kingdom of God? Is there any misalignment?
- What burdens you for the advance of the Kingdom of God?
- What were you "born to do" in the Kingdom of God? What do you make of the last line of this text? Why is it said last?