

Name: _____

SMI Week 2

Day 1

Nehemiah 2:1-20

Read Nehemiah 2:1-20 and answer the following questions.

1. When it comes to planning and organizing, how would you describe yourself? Is it wrong for Christians to develop detailed plans for ministry? When is it okay? When might it not be okay?
2. What information in this chapter would lead you to believe that Nehemiah had made specific plans? How does this show his wisdom? His dependence on God? His dependence on human resources? His respect for his superior?
3. What are some specific ways you can better plan and prepare in your service of God this week.
4. Can others read what you are thinking or feeling, almost like an open book? Or is your heart under lock and key? Why is that? When might it be good to show our feelings and emotions? When might it be best not to show them?
5. How can you make your needs known to your King? What needs do you need to trust Him with today?

Nehemiah 2:1-20

Read Nehemiah 2:1-20 and answer the following questions.

1. What was Nehemiah's frame of mind at the beginning of Chapter 2? Why did the king's question make him afraid? What wise thing did Nehemiah do when afraid?
2. Consider that Nehemiah waited and prayed for perhaps four months before taking action regarding the walls of Jerusalem. Then read Psalm 5:3. Why is waiting so hard for most of us? Why is it so important?
3. What is one thing in your life that you need to wait on God for? How can you trust His timing?
4. What three points does Nehemiah make publically to rally the troops to rebuild? Which one do you find most convincing?
5. Why do you think Nehemiah said nothing to those who would be doing the work until he had personally inspected the walls? What can you learn about leadership from this example?

Nehemiah 2:1-20

Read Nehemiah 2:1-20 and answer the following questions.

1. What were some concrete ways Nehemiah demonstrated dependence on God in this chapter? What are some specific ways you can better trust God this week?
2. In verse 18 Nehemiah tells the people that God's hand has been upon him for good. What evidence do we see in this chapter that God's hand is upon him and his work?
3. Read Genesis 39:2-4. Who is ultimately behind any and all of our successes? How does this idea differ from our culture's view of success?
4. Why was Nehemiah so confident that the Lord would grant them success? How do you know if God is with you in something you are planning to do?
5. Read John 15:5. What does this verse teach about success in spiritual things? How can you apply this lesson to SMI ministry?

