# RALLYING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Nehemiah 2:1-20 Pastor Alan Dionson March 10, 2024

## INTRO:

- 1. The danger of apathy
- 2. The response to apathy

# A. WE NEED TO BE EMPOWERED BY <u>INTERCESSION</u>

- 1. Nehemiah prayed **fervently** (v. 1:1)
- 2. Nehemiah prayed consistently (v. 2:1,4)

## B. WE NEED TO BE DIRECTED BY A VISION

- 1. Nehemiah's vision includes **sacrifice** (v. 2-5)
- 2. Nehemiah's vision resulted in **support** (v. 6-9)

## C. WE NEED TO RESPOND IN <u>ACTION</u>

- 1. Nehemiah acted with **passion** (v. 1-2)
- 2. Nehemiah served with information (v. 11-17)
- 3. Nehemiah worked with unction (v. 18)

## D. WE NEED TO WORK WITH COOPERATION

- 1. Nehemiah got the support from outsiders (v. 2-9)
- 2. Nehemiah got the support from outliers (v. 10, 19-20)

## CONCLUSION

"They said, 'We're with you. Let's get started.' They rolled up their sleeves, ready for the good work." (Nehemiah 2:18)

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Icebreaker. What are the top three items in your bucket list right now?
  - Nehemiah was very successful and influential, but there is one item that he needed to do—the restoration of Jerusalem's walls. "This study will inspire us to step out in faith, trusting that God's strength will lead us toward a future filled with restoration and purpose.
- 2. Read Nehemiah 2:1-2. How did Nehemiah's vision for rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem originate? In what ways do you see prayer as an essential component of pursuing a Godgiven vision?
- 3. Read Nehemiah 2:2-9. Why was Nehemiah described as "very much afraid" when the king asked him about his countenance? How did the king respond after Nehemiah honestly shared his? How did *fear* become a *favor*? What can we learn from this encounter between Nehemiah and King Artaxerxes?
- 4. Read Nehemiah 2:11-16. Nehemiah carefully planned and assessed the situation before taking action. How can strategic planning be applied in our personal and spiritual endeavors? Discuss the balance between trusting God's guidance and implementing practical planning. Share a specific example of how you used this principle recently.
- 5. Read Nehemiah 2:17-18. Study the passage carefully and share different insights how the community responded when Nehemiah challenged them to restore Jerusalem's broken walls. Read verse 18 using *The Message* translation and share how the translator described the people's response. Why is the project of restoring the fractured walls called a *good work?* Why is it important to value God's work as preeminently good?
- 6. In what ways can the principles from Nehemiah 2 be applied to your personal life, challenges, or goals?
- 7. What areas of Vision "Five by Twenty-Five" are willing to contribute towards its completion? Close the Life Group Meeting by praying these responses.