



**Introduction:**

- We have been focusing on evangelism and personal growth this year.
- Much of that involves seeking opportunities to grow and teach others.
- How do we seek opportunities and how do we act when they present themselves?
- A familiar story from Nehemiah 1-2 will shed some light on this but not how we usually think.

**I. Nehemiah Had the Faith To \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1-3)**

- A. 1:1 Jewish month of Chislev = \_\_\_\_\_
- B. 2:1 Jewish month of Nisan = \_\_\_\_\_
- C. He has been praying and fasting for \_\_\_\_\_ months!
  - 1) When's the last time we spent that much time praying for something?
- D. We need to be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ for opportunities.
  - 1) Waiting of God is \_\_\_\_\_ time, it's \_\_\_\_\_ time.

**II. Nehemiah Had the Faith To \_\_\_\_\_ (2:4-8)**

- A. What do we know from Esther 4:1-2 about approaching the king?
- B. Though he had access he couldn't just openly bring it to the king
  - 1) What about us in light of Hebrews 4?
- C. The King inquires "Why \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_?"
- D. Nehemiah had prepared for this but was still \_\_\_\_\_.

**III. Nehemiah Had the Faith To \_\_\_\_\_ (2:9-20)**

- A. Not everyone is anxious to see things change
- B. Some will oppose to the enthusiasm and efforts being made.
- C. He saw at night what others didn't see in the day
  - 1) Leading others to Christ takes vision.
- D. He identifies with the people.
  - 1) Even though he is an outsider coming in they join together for the work.

**Conclusion:**

- Are we the kind of leaders and followers that God wants us to be?
- Are we willing to sacrifice to see His will accomplished?
- Are we motivating people on the basis of what we are going to do or on what God CAN do?