### A Study on Nehemiah





#### Nehemiah was just an ordinary guy with a secular job who was used in an extraordinary way by God.

Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, "Yes, let's rebuild the wall!"

#### So they began the good work.

Nehemiah 2:18 (NLT)



A Study on Nehemiah



#### Understand your purpose

#### So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.



For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.





# If you're not sure what to do, read the bible and you'll begin to figure it out.

A Study on Nehemiah

#### THE GOOD WQRK

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#### Understand your purpose

#### Live a good life



# Good works can never earn salvation; but there is something radically wrong if salvation does not produce good actions.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.



In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see <u>your</u> good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven



#### Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.





# The Greek phrase for making the most of every opportunity conveys the idea of "buying from time" or "redeeming time."

Carefully use your time to create opportunities.

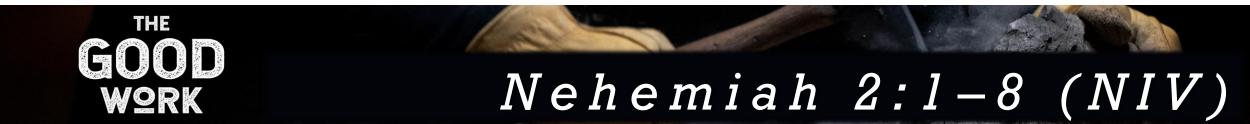
#### Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.



In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart."



I was very much afraid, but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" The king said to me, "What is it you want?"





## Nehemiah's lifestyle opened the door for the opportunity to make a difference when it came.

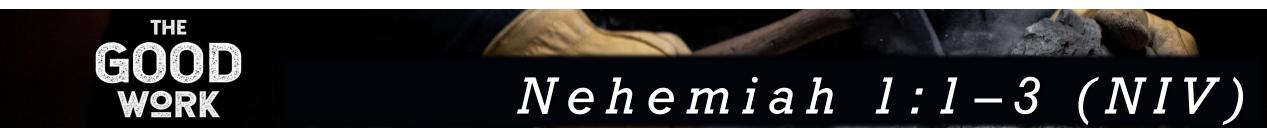
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#### THE GOOD WORK

## Understand your purposeLive a good life

#### Sit down to cry

The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.



They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."



#### When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.





#### You can have strength with compassion.



## Your life will never have any real meaning until you begin to look outside yourself and focus on others.

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#### THE GOOD WORK

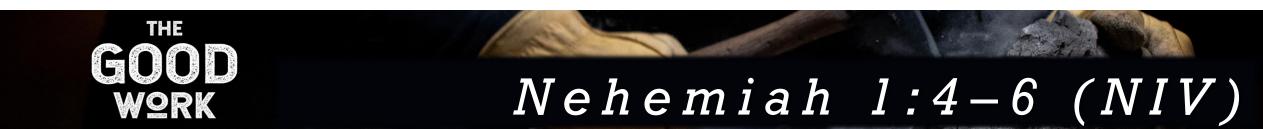
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Understand your purpose Live a good life Sit down to cry

#### Kneel down to pray

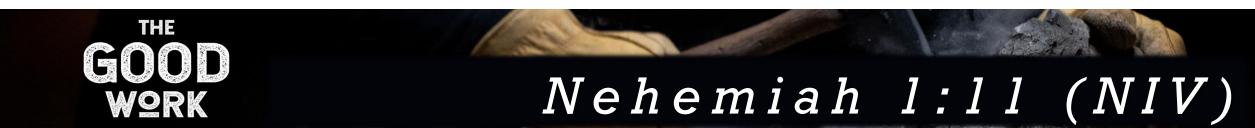
When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. Then I said: "Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments,



let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you.



Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man." I was cupbearer to the king.



WHAT YOU PRAY ABOUT REFLECTS WHAT YOU BELIEVE ABOUT GOD

A Study on Nehemiah



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Understand your purpose

• Live a good life

- Sit down to cry
- Kneel down to pray

#### Stand up and act



#### Pray for opportunities and then plan as if you expect God to answer your prayer.

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I was very much afraid, but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"



The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."



Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time. I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah?



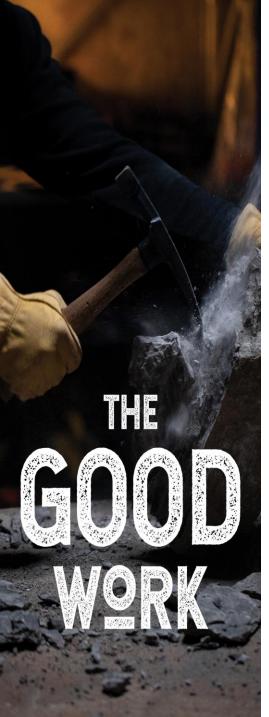
And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.





#### Pray for opportunities and then plan as if you expect God to answer your prayer.

YOU DON'T HAVETO BE APPOINTED BY MAN FYOUARE CALLED BY GOD.



Understand your purpose

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