

FROM THE GROUND UP

A study on the book of Nehemiah

PART 1: A BROKEN HEART
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God loves to use ordinary people to do extraordinary things. But we have to listen to where God is calling us—noticing the things that break our hearts, taking the time to pray about it, and ultimately taking action.

Discussion Questions

1. **Read Nehemiah 1:1-4.** What breaks your heart? What do you hear about in the news or see happening in our schools, community, or world that just pierces your heart?
2. At what point during a crisis do you typically think to pray? Is it the first thing you turn to, or do you tend to try to fix things on your own and work it out? What are the benefits to immediately turning to God in prayer?
3. How do prayer and action go hand-in-hand? What are the risks of doing one and not the other?
4. Think about your life—your family and friends, where you work, your passions. How can God use you to make a difference in these areas?

Challenge

Read Nehemiah 1:1–2:8. Spend time reflecting on Nehemiah’s story and consider how God could be calling you to help accomplish his purposes here on earth.

Commit to Memory

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” **Matthew 7:7**