

Weekly Cell Guide

Member's Copy

Series - When God Calls (Nehemiah 1:1-11)
Topic - Building the Future

Date - 19-Apr-2020
Speaker - SP Ben KC Lee

WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for *icebreakers* suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)

WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

1. Make A Difference
2. Saviour King

BIBLE READING PLAN [10 min]

NEW

Take some time to talk about the Bible Reading Plan. The time of sharing can include the following:

- a) How's everyone's progress so far?
- b) What are some things that God has spoken to you through the various readings?

Wrap Up Sharing

In this season of PAUSE, we want to mature in the knowledge of God. To mature in our relationship with God would mean knowing Him and His ways better. To know Him better is to know His Word better. Therefore, let's get deeper in the Word during this PAUSE season and let us emerge from this season deeper and stronger in His Word.

WORD [45 min]

Spiritual Objectives

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. learn to pray like Nehemiah: praise God's character, confess sins and seek forgiveness, and finally, claim upon the promises of God.
2. commit to get involved in the causes that God has burdened us with.

Sermon Summary

The following are the key points of the sermon:

1. Our Father calls you and I to call the people to Him.

2. The state of God's people (cell group, household, church) is our problem – we need to care and do something about it.

Sermon Recap (Full Summary)

Nehemiah is a tremendous example of how people of faith respond to God's call and mission. What does it mean to rebuild the walls of our own lives and the lives of others? Rebuilding our walls is the re-establishing of the spiritual strength in our lives. Rebuilding the walls of others is to find His Kingdom purposes and catch our burden of seeing them fulfilled.

1. God calls us (vs. 1-4a)

When God wants to accomplish a work, He puts His people at the right place at the right time. God also works in our hearts, just as He did in Nehemiah. Does the suffering of others burden us? We need to be concerned about the issues around us, even if they bring obligations, because God has called us. Nehemiah had a burden for God's people and it broke his heart. Our Father calls you and I to call others to Him. SP Ben shared his burden for RiverLife Church – to make disciples to fulfil the Great Commission and to restore the relationship between God and His people (2 Corinthians 5:18-21).

2. Call out to God (vs. 4b-11)

Nehemiah called out to God. His first act was to pause and go to God. He spent four months fasting and calling out to God to change his heart. Nehemiah's prayer began with praise and adoration of God's character. The second part of his prayer is confession of sins (his own and his people) and seeking forgiveness from God. The third part of his prayer is an expression of confidence in God's promises (vs. 8-11). He claimed God's promises and His faithfulness to His people. Then he asked God for favour to fulfil his calling.

3. Commitment to get involved (vs. 11b)

Nehemiah knew that he had to get involved. As he prayed, his burden became greater, and his heart changed. He recognised that he had a personal responsibility and made himself available. Prayer is not for getting our will done in heaven, but getting God's will done on earth. For that He needs people to be available for His purposes. Nehemiah laid down self-interest for God's purpose. He sacrificed the comfort and luxury of the palace for the hardship and dangers of the ruined city.

Conclusion

God is looking for people like Nehemiah who cared enough to ask for the facts, to pray for God's help, and then volunteer to get the job done. Martin Luther said to pray as if everything depends on God, and work as if everything depends on us. Nehemiah was a man of burden, a man of prayer, and a man of action. The state of God's people (cell group, household, church) is our problem – we need to care and do something about it. Are you available to receive a burden, to give yourself to prayer, and to commit our life to others? May God help us to have such a heart. It is time to get our priorities in line with God's Kingdom. But some of us need personal rebuilding. Our defences are broken because we have allowed sins and habits to control our life. Before we ask God to rebuild around us, we must first be concerned about the brokenness in ourselves. Do you cry over the neglect in your own life?

Discussion Questions

1. **Think back to a time when you have been very passionate about a cause or a project. Share the sacrifices you made and the effort you put into the cause or project. (*Recap*)**
[10 min]
2. **Examine the state of your own spiritual walls – personal, household and cell. Share with each other the walls that need rebuilding in your life. (*Relate, Reflect*)** [15 min]
3. **Nehemiah heard first-hand about the sad conditions in Jerusalem and was burdened to do something about it. He was a man of action. With all the overwhelming needs around us, how can you know where God wants you to focus and act? (Matthew 28:19-20) (*Response*)** [15 min]

WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray:

1. God stops the spread. His protection continues to be on us and heal those infected.
 2. God to open our hearts and burden us with Kingdom purposes in this season.
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Church Vision

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.