

Adult/Youth Prayer Journal
Nehemiah Journey – Phase 3
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Day One (beginning on Monday after Kick-Off Sunday)

“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!” (Matthew 7: 7-11)

Question for Prayer and Reflection:
What does this scripture passage teach us about the heart of God?

Day Two - Tuesday

Read again - Matthew 7: 7-11

Question for Prayer and Reflection:
Consider the ways that God has provided for you and your church in the past. Write down a particular moment when God provided for you and for your church. Take time to praise God for the provision.

Day Three - Wednesday

Read again - Matthew 7: 7-11

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Think about the gifts that you and your church needed in the past as you have shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ. While these gifts may be financial, consider other gifts that are equally important, such as faith, prayer, service, etc. Write down those gifts and the names of people who have generously shared their gifts with you and the church for the building up of the body of Christ. Take a moment to thank God for them.

Day 4 - Thursday

Read again - Matthew 7: 7-11

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Remember a time when your church knocked on the door and took a significant step of faith. What caused the church to take the risk? Who was involved? What did Jesus teach you in the process? Lift up a prayer of gratitude to God for that moment.

Day 5 - Friday

Read again - Matthew 7: 7-11

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Think about the times when you and your church sought the Lord. Describe what that time looked like. Who was involved? What difference did you see in the life of the church and/or the community? Thank God for that moment in your church's life.

Day 6 - Saturday

Read Psalm 139: 13-14 – “For it was You who formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Ask God to reveal to you the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given to you. Write down your talents, your passions, and your abilities. Thank God for these gifts.

Day 7 - Sunday

“This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!” (Psalm 118:24)
Today is the day to worship! See you at Church!

Day 8 - Monday, leading toward Opportunities

Read: “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” (Matthew 25: 34-36)

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Hunger exists in many different forms – physical nourishment, relationship, and purpose. A person can also have a deep hunger for a relationship with God in Christ. Write down those places where you see hungry people. For what do they hunger? Pray for these people and their needs.

Day 9 - Tuesday

Read again Matthew 25: 34-36

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Nothing quenches one's thirst like a cup of cold water on a hot summer's day. Think about your church and community. What people or areas have “dried up?” Write down the names and places, and say a prayer for those dried places to be quenched with the living water that Jesus offers.

Day 10 - Wednesday

Read again Matthew 25: 34-36

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Think about the people in your community who are overlooked or have no place to call “home.” They may literally be homeless. They may not have a faith home. Or they may be looked down upon as being ‘different.’ Write down the names of those people or groups of people. Pray for them and ask Jesus to show you what welcoming them might look like.

Day 11 - Thursday

Read again Matthew 25: 34-36

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Think about people who are naked or “exposed” in your community. Maybe they have been caught in a scandal or have a questionable past. Perhaps they have a reputation in town. Write down some ways that you and the church could offer the “clothing of righteousness” that is only found in Jesus. Pray for them and for how you can respond with the love of Christ.

Day 12 - Friday

Read again Matthew 25: 34-36

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Who do you know that is sick? Their ailment may be physical (cancer survivors, people with Alzheimer’s, etc.), or they may suffer from a sin sickness. Write down their names, and pray that Jesus will show you how to offer healing in his name, individually and as a church.

Day 12 - Saturday

Read again Matthew 25: 34-36

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Imprisoned people are not only in jail. We can be imprisoned in our suffering, destructive behaviors, financial stress, grief, and more. Write down the names of people in your community who are imprisoned (literally and/or figuratively), and pray for them. Ask Jesus to show you how to offer the freedom that is only found in Him.

Day 13 - Sunday, Worship

“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord!’” Psalm 122:1
Today is the day to worship! See you at church!

Day 14 – Monday

Read: “While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia..” (Acts 13: 2-4)

Question for Prayer & Reflection: If you read through the Book of Acts, the Holy Spirit actively directs the apostles in their mission to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Think about the times when the Holy Spirit has guided you. What happened? How did you feel? Maybe you have never experienced the leading of the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Holy Spirit will speak to you in the coming days, and may we be receptive to hear and be led.

Day 15 - Tuesday

Read Acts 13: 2-4 again

Question for Prayer & Reflection: In this passage, the Holy Spirit leads as the people are worshiping, fasting, and praying. They put themselves in a position to receive guidance and instruction from the Holy Spirit. What might be keeping you from receiving guidance and instruction from the Holy Spirit? Pray and ask Jesus to remove any “roadblocks” that would keep you from being able to hear and follow.

Day 16 - Wednesday

Read: “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and all of Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
Acts 1:8.

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Jesus promises his disciples that, when the Holy Spirit comes, they will receive power. What kind of power does your church need in order to live into Jesus’ dreams for your church? Pray that the Holy Spirit might give you the power that you need to make dreams a reality.

Day 17 - Thursday

Read Galatians 5: 22-23 - “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Where do you see the fruit of the Spirit evident in your church? Where might this fruit be shared within the community? Pray that the fruit of the Spirit might grow in amazing ways in the church.

Day 18 - Friday

Read Genesis 1: 1-2 - “In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.”

Question for Prayer and Reflection: The Hebrew word for the “wind of God” present at creation is *ruach*, or spirit. As you think about your community and the church, where do you see the presence of the Holy Spirit? Where is the Holy Spirit already moving? Pray

that you and your church are able to see where the Holy Spirit is present, moving, and inviting you to join in the work of Jesus?

Day 19 - Saturday

Read John 16: 7-11 - Jesus said, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned."

Question for Prayer and Reflection: The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin. What sin in your life or in the life of your church might keep you from realizing Jesus' dreams for you and your church. Pray for Jesus' forgiveness and that the Holy Spirit might strengthen you in your repentance.

Day 20 - Sunday

"This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Psalm 118:24
Let's worship together! See you in church!

Day 21 - Monday, leading to revelation

Read Psalm 119: 18 - "Open my eyes, Lord, that I may behold wonderful things from Your Law."

Question for Prayer and Reflection: As we pray for our eyes to be opened to see all that Jesus wants for His church, consider any "blind spots" that you may have. Is there anything that you want to keep "off limits" from Him? Why? Pray that Jesus may open you to the fullness and the possibilities of what He wants to do through you and His church.

Day 22 - Tuesday

Read Luke 24 with a particular focus on verse 31 - "And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight."

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Pray that Jesus will reveal himself to you. Where have you seen Jesus in the church? In the community? Where is He calling you and/or the church to serve and share the Gospel? What might that look like?

Day 23 - Wednesday

Read Mark 8 with particular attention to verse 25 - "Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly."

Question for Prayer and Reflection: As you consider the worship experiences and conversations that you have had, where do you have questions? Where are you curious? What has surprised you? Pray that Jesus will make the vision for His church clear to you and to others in the church.

Day 24 - Thursday

Read Luke 24: 25 - "Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,..."

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: Consider what scripture passages are influencing you the most during this process. How has your understanding of Jesus and His church changed or been affirmed through worship, prayer, study of scripture, and fellowship? Pray that the Holy Spirit will use the Scriptures to inform and shape the vision that is to be revealed.

Day 25 - Friday

Read Matthew 16:17 - "And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: As you consider what Jesus is revealing to you for His church, is this revelation the same as what you were expected when you started this process, or is it surprisingly different? If it is the same, have you considered that Jesus may have something else in store for you and the church? If it is different, what made the difference? Pray that God's will will be done in this process of revelation and not our own.

Day 26 - Saturday

Read I Corinthians 2:9 - "But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him."

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: Consider whether or not your church has ever fully surrendered to God and His dreams for His church. If you discern that the church has not, now is a good time to change the course for the future. Start imagining what God has prepared for the church. Don't be afraid to seek a God-sized vision - one that will require great faith. Pray that God will make that vision clear to you and the church.

Day 27 - Sunday, worship

"O **come, let us worship** and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep." Psalm 95: 6-7

Let's worship God together today! See you at church!

Day 28 - Monday

Read Revelation 21: 1-6 - "Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true. He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and

the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: As you pray about the hopes and dreams that Jesus has for the church, what might need to pass away? What attitudes, resentments, or disappointments might need healing in order for you all to see the possibilities? Pray that the Great Physician will heal those parts of the church that need to pass away in order for the new to come.

Day 29 - Tuesday

Read Revelation 21: 1-6 again.

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: What “sea” or barrier(s) might be keeping you and your church from seeing and realizing Jesus’ dreams for the church? How can overcoming these barriers, with God’s help, be incorporated into the vision that Jesus gives the church?

Day 30 - Wednesday

Read Revelation 21: 1-6 again.

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: How has the Holy Spirit spoken to you during this process? While this communication could be through words or Scripture, you might also have feelings of hope, uneasiness, etc. Pray that Jesus would reveal his dreams for your church in a way that is clear.

Day 31- Thursday

Read Revelation 21:1-6 again.

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: What might Jesus be making new in the church? Your community? What are some new ways that you might be able to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Pray that the Holy Spirit will clearly reveal that vision to you.

Day 32 - Friday

Read Revelation 21: 1-6 again.

Questions for Prayer and Reflection:

Day 33 - Saturday

Question for Prayer and Reflection: Write down the vision that Christ has given you on a notecard. Be prepared to share what He has given you with your group. Bring the card with the revelation that has been given to you, and share it with your pastor and/or small group leader.

Day 34 – Sunday

“Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.” Psalm 96: 1

Today is a great day to sing to the Lord with our church family. See you in worship!

Day 35 - Monday

Read 2 Samuel 22:50 – “Therefore, I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the nations, and I will sing praises to Your name.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: What have you discovered about yourself in this process? Consider the joys as well as the convictions of the Holy Spirit. Take a moment to lift up these gifts and insights to the Lord in prayer.

Day 36 – Tuesday

Read Romans 15:9 – “...and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, “Therefore I will give praise to You among the Gentiles, and I will sing to Your name.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: What have you discovered about the church in this process? Consider the joys as well as the convictions of the Holy Spirit. Take a moment to lift up these gifts and insights to the Lord in prayer.

Day 37 – Wednesday

Read Psalm 21: 13 – “Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength. We will sing and praise Your power.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: How has the Lord given you strength during this season? How have you recognized your weaknesses? How has the Lord strengthened you for the future? Pray that the Lord will continue to strengthen you and the church for the days ahead.

Day 38 – Thursday

Read Psalm 63: 7 – “For You have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: How has the Lord sheltered you and your church? From what have you been protected? What protection will be needed as you take the next steps of faith? Pray with thanksgiving for all that the Lord has done for you and the church. Ask for God’s continued protection as you move forward in faith.

Day 39 – Friday

Read I Corinthians 14: 15 – “What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the mind also.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: How do you need to pray with the spirit and pray with the mind? How will you sing with the spirit and sing with the mind? Consider all the people of the church and all of the ways that you move forward in faith together. Some are more inspired by the Spirit, while others are inspired by God-given data and facts. Pray that God will give your church and its leadership all that is needed to inspire the whole church to move forward in faith.

Day 40 – Saturday

Read Psalm 89: 1 – “I will sing of the lovingkindness of the Lord forever. To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth.”

Questions for Prayer and Reflection: As you consider the last few weeks, how could you make known the faithfulness of God? What story do you have to share from this experience? With whom could you share this witness? Pray that the Lord reveals to you the right person with whom to share your story. That person could be within your church and someone beyond your church family.

Day 41 - Sunday, worship celebration

“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.” Psalm 104:33

Today we worship and praise the Lord! See you at church!