

**Study Questions for the July 12, 2020 Sermon:
“If You See Something, Pray Something”
Nehemiah 1**

1. Memory question: Pastor Paul suggested a 4-step model for prayer, using the acronym: LOVE. “L” stands for “Lift up God.” For what did “O”, “V”, and “E” stand?
2. Ezra successfully oversaw the rebuilding of the temple, but apparently, instead of this great achievement being the beginning of the restoration of the Jewish nation, the movement toward Jewish sovereignty “fizzled out”. Most of us can recall events in our own experience where a project was initiated with enthusiasm, and met with some initial success, but then lost momentum. Give some reasons that Christianity continued to grow after Jesus physically left the earth at the ascension.
3. When family members are reunited after a separation, their questions are often “safe”. How's the weather been? Who has got married? Read verse 2. What do Nehemiah's questions reveal about his values?
4. Northwest Baptist is an urban church; many members of our congregation have pressing and urgent spiritual and material needs. What can we learn from Nehemiah, Chapter 1 about selecting, from among many legitimate needs, which needs we will personally attempt to address?
5. We often derive our sense of significance from our achievements, the property we own, and the surroundings in which we live. Verse 3 says that the remnant living in Jerusalem was in *great trouble and shame* because of the broken walls and burnt-up gates of their city. When you are in distress, and can derive no comfort from your achievements or acquisitions, are there verses, or sections of scripture, to which you turn? Share those.
6. The plight of the remnant in Jerusalem drove Nehemiah to days of weeping, mourning, fasting, and praying. Share a situation that should be driving you to this kind of lamentation.
 - a. City/national/global
 - b. Personal

7. Using Nehemiah as an example of authentic, Biblical masculinity, contrast his qualities of character with the “faux” or inauthentic masculinity often portrayed in American culture.

8. What did Nehemiah discern as the reason why the walls and gates were torn down? (Verses 6, 7, & 8)