

WEEK 2 - GREATER FAITH

BIG IDEA

God-sized vision requires faith-filled action.

KEY PASSAGES

Nehemiah 2:1-20

God called Nehemiah to a vision he couldn't see yet - to a path that required tremendous steps of faith. He risked position, reputation, and comfort because God had put a burden on his heart for the city of Jerusalem. Nehemiah confronted his doubts, fears, and opposition, trusting that God would turn vision into reality. Oftentimes, trusting in God means not looking only at our current circumstance, but at God's promises for our future.

ICE BREAKERS

1. When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up? Why did you want to pursue that occupation?
2. Why is it difficult to trust people? Why do we have so many trust issues?
3. When was a time that you trusted someone, and it turned out for the positive?
4. What does it take in order for true trust to be present?

CONSIDER & DISCUSS

Read the Scriptures above aloud as a group. Spend time in discussion around the questions below.

1. Read Nehemiah 2:5-8. What does Nehemiah mean by the "good hand" of God? (v. 8)
2. How does God use the people in this story to accomplish his plan? What does that tell us about God?
3. What emotions do you think Nehemiah experienced throughout the events in this passage?
4. Why do you think Nehemiah was willing to risk so much to rebuild Jerusalem?
5. Nehemiah employed a four-step process to address the God-sized venture that was before him: Pray, Plan, Ask, and Act. When you face a significant venture, which of these four steps is most challenging to you personally?

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- 6. In Nehemiah's journey, he faces internal and external opposition to rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. Where are you facing opposition in your life? (This can include areas of sin and spiritual warfare, relational struggles, worldly opposition, etc.)**
- 7. When you think about what God might "put into your heart to do", what are some of the things that scare you about that? How might God comfort you through those fears?**
- 8. What are specific ways God has displayed his faithfulness in your life?**

RESPOND

How might God be calling you to GREATER faith in this season? What is your next faithful step in being used by God in this way? Share this step of faith with your group and write it in your GREATER Guide-book.

PRAY

As we enter this exciting new season of ministry at First Christian, spend some time praying together as a group. Thank God for the ways He's demonstrated His trustworthiness and faithfulness to you. Ask God to stretch your faith through this GREATER season, and give you courage to put him first in your time, talents, and treasure. You can pray in pairs, small groups, or have multiple people pray aloud.