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# BEING A PRAYER WARRIOR





# 1) PRAYER - OUR FIRST OR LAST RESORT

Nehemiah 1:1-11





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## Nehemiah 1:1-11

1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:

In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, <sup>2</sup> Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.”





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<sup>4</sup> When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. <sup>5</sup> Then I said:

“LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup> let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s family, have committed against you.<sup>7</sup> We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.





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<sup>8</sup> “Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations,’<sup>9</sup> but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.’

<sup>10</sup> “They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. <sup>11</sup> Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today, by granting him favor in the presence of this man.”

I was cupbearer to the king.





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# 2) PRAY FIRST THEN ACT ON GOD'S WILL

Nehemiah 2:1-10



# Nehemiah 2:1-10



1 In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, <sup>2</sup> so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.”

I was very much afraid, <sup>3</sup> but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”





<sup>4</sup> The king said to me, “What is it you want?”

Then I prayed to the God of heaven, <sup>5</sup> and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.

<sup>6</sup> Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, “How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?” It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.





<sup>7</sup> I also said to him, “If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? <sup>8</sup> And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?” And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.





<sup>9</sup> So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

<sup>10</sup> When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.





- GOD
- makes the need known to Nehemiah
  - moves Nehemiah's heart to pray
  - moves Artaxerxes's heart
  - moves Nehemiah to direct the request to the king





Proverbs 21:1

**The kings heart is in the hand of the Lord;  
he directs it like a watercourse wherever  
he pleases**





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# Faithfulness Of God In Prayer





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# 1. Knowing His Faithfulness through prayer

**Acts 17:22-24**

It's not about 'what' or 'how long' or 'how much' you pray.

It's about 'who' you are praying to.

It's 'knowing' a faithful God

It's about 'knowing' the faithfulness of Christ himself



# 2. Visualise to Actualise through Prayer



- Mark 11:22-24
- Having a 'God-kind-of-faith'
- Can't fake our Prayer life
- Can't fake lack of Forgiveness in prayer
- Being faithful in prayer is counting on God and no one else
- Time and circumstances don't bind God's faithfulness to us





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**Sharadamma and her son Santhosh**





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**Mahesh, Sharadamma's nephew who invited her  
at her humble thatched home**





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**Sharadamma's vineyard!**





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**Sharadamma's cattle shed..has a buffalo and a few goats!!**





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**The service at Doddaballapur**





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**Worship and praise in the local language kannada**





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God's word being preached at Doddaballapur

