

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Standing Strong

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Life Lessons for Today

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Memory Verse: Nehemiah 9:10 NIV

You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his officials and all the people of his land, for you knew how arrogantly the Egyptians treated them. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Be prayerful but proactively plan and persevere in adversity.

Read Nehemiah 2

1. When the king notices that Nehemiah is sad and asks him about it, Nehemiah becomes afraid (v 2). Despite his fear he speaks with the king about what is on his heart. Are there areas in your life where emotions keep you from asking for what you need from God or from others?
2. When Nehemiah is asked by the king what he wants, he pauses to pray before answering (v 4). What does this reveal about Nehemiah's spiritual maturity and view of God? Have you ever prayed a quick, silent prayer in the middle of a conversation or decision? What was that experience like? How can we cultivate a habit of turning to God in prayer, even in brief moments throughout our day?
3. In verse 8 Nehemiah recognizes that his success was not solely due to his leadership skills but because of God's gracious hand being on him. How does acknowledging God's hand in our successes change the way we view our



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achievements? When you experience blessing, how are you at recognizing God as the source? In what ways can we express gratitude for God's gracious hand in our lives?

4. The king not only granted Nehemiah's request but also provided additional support by sending army officers and cavalry with him (v 9). How do you typically respond when God blesses you beyond your expectations? How can you be an instrument of unexpected support and encouragement to someone else this week?
5. In verses 10 and 19 we are introduced to some people who oppose Nehemiah and what he has come to do. When have you experienced opposition while trying to follow God's leading? How did it affect your faith and actions? What truths about your identity in Christ do you need to remember when facing spiritual battles?
6. Sanballat and Tobiah used mockery as a weapon. How does fear of ridicule or others' opinions hold people back from fully following God today? What helps you stay focused on God's approval rather than people's opinions?
7. Nehemiah didn't attempt the ambitious rebuilding project alone; he shared the vision and invited others to join (v 17-18). Who has inspired you to take courageous action? Who has God placed in your life that you could encourage to step into God's purposes with boldness?
8. Despite opposition, Nehemiah remained confident because he knew God was with him (v 20). Is confidence in God the same as blind faith? Why or why not? How does understanding God's character and past actions inform our confidence? How does actively engaging in serving God or pursuing His will affect our confidence?



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