

Meeling gives the devotion on Nehemiah 1:1-11, 2:1-10

- First two chapters illustrate Nehemiah's prayer life.
- He wept, he mourned, he fast for several days,
- He prayed for the distress & rise of Jerusalem.
- He demonstrated 5 elements of effective prayers
 1. Praise God
 2. V. 5 Thanksgiving
 3. repentance and forgiveness of sins
 4. Specific requests – pray for success for God's works, not his own goods
 5. Commitments v.1:11,v2: 2: told the king despite of fear
- Which element do we tend to omit when we pray?
 1. Repentance spirit
 2. Lack of specifics – even in repentance
 3. Don't display the passion calling on Him almighty, pleading and begging (like David – do not hide thy face from me.)
 4. Recognizing how inadequate we are, and how awesome God is.
 5. Lack faith
 6. Recall God's promise
 7. One faithful person in prayer change the fate of a nation
- Nehemiah prays and asks God for wisdom before answers the King.
- He continues to have the heart in God although he is in exile
- Amazed that the King let Nehemiah go since as king's cupbearer, he is a person in trust
- He is not afraid to ask, knowing he is doing God's work.
- He is prudent, smart, and big things. He is bold, and his timing is right.
- Overall, God shows favor to His people in time of difficulties and in face of non-believers.
- He uses Christians and non-Christians to accomplish His purpose.