

Day 1: God Uses Ordinary People

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-2

Reflection: Nehemiah was an ordinary cupbearer, yet God used him to lead a significant rebuilding project. This reminds us that God often chooses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. You may feel like you don't have much to offer, but God sees your potential and has a purpose for you.

Application: Reflect on your current roles and responsibilities. How might God be calling you to serve Him in these areas? Write down one way you can step out in faith today, trusting that God can use you.

Prayer: Lord, help me to see the potential You have placed within me. Use me for Your eternal purposes, even in my ordinary life. Open my eyes to opportunities to serve You and others. Amen.

Day 2: The Cost of Being Used by God

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:3-4

Reflection: Nehemiah's heart broke for his people, and he chose to embrace that burden. Following God's call often comes with a cost—pain, rejection, or loneliness. Yet, these sacrifices are part of the journey to making a difference.

Application: Identify an area in your life where you feel God is calling you to step out, even if it comes with a cost. Commit to taking one small step in that direction today, trusting God with the outcome.

Prayer: Father, give me the courage to embrace the burdens You place on my heart. Help me to be willing to pay the price for following Your call, knowing that You are with me every step of the way. Amen.

Day 3: Letting Your Heart Break

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:4

Reflection: Nehemiah allowed himself to feel the pain of his people's situation. What breaks your heart? Is it injustice, poverty, or something else? Let yourself feel the weight of it, and ask God to guide you in how to respond.

Application: Spend time in prayer, asking God to reveal what breaks His heart. Write down what comes to mind and consider how you can be part of the solution. Share your burden with a trusted friend or mentor and ask for their prayers and support.

Prayer: Lord, break my heart for what breaks Yours. Help me to feel deeply and respond faithfully to the needs around me. Guide me in taking action and making a difference. Amen.

Day 4: Kneeling Down to Pray

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:4-6

Reflection: Nehemiah's response to his heartbreak was to turn to prayer. He mourned, fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven. When something is big enough to cry about, it's big enough

to pray about. What you pray about reflects what you believe about God.

Application: Set aside dedicated time each day this week to pray about the burdens on your heart. Be specific in your prayers, asking God for guidance, strength, and opportunities to act.

Prayer: God of heaven, I come before You with my burdens. Help me to pray with faith and boldness, trusting that You hear and will act. Strengthen my faith as I seek Your will. Amen.

Day 5: Standing Up to Act

Scripture: Nehemiah 2:4-5

Reflection: After praying, Nehemiah took action. He approached the king and asked for permission to rebuild Jerusalem. His tears turned into prayers, and his prayers drove him to act. What is God calling you to do? You may not be able to do everything, but you can do something.

Application: Identify one specific action you can take this week to address the burden on your heart. It could be volunteering, starting a conversation, or supporting a cause. Take that step, trusting God to guide you.

Prayer: Lord, give me the courage to stand up and act on the burdens You've placed on my heart. Help me to take steps of faith, trusting in Your guidance and provision. Amen.

Day 6: Let the Good Work Begin

Scripture: Nehemiah 2:18

Reflection: Nehemiah inspired others to join him in the good work. When you take a step of faith, you can inspire those around you. Reflect on how your actions can make a difference in the world and encourage others to do the same.

Application: Share your journey and the steps you're taking with someone else. Invite them to join you in the good work, whether through prayer, support, or action. Encourage them to seek God's call in their own lives.

Prayer: Father, as I begin the good work You've called me to, may my life inspire others to join in. Use me to make a difference in the world for Your glory. Help me to encourage and uplift those around me. Amen.

First Congregational Church

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We pray this has been an encouragement to you. We'd love to hear how it's impacted you or how we can pray for you!