

Pastor Roy's Sermon on Nehemiah 2:1-20 (June 24, 2026)

—Below are questions from that lesson to further our understanding—

1. Nehemiah waited four months in prayer before God opened the door with the king. How does this challenge our modern expectations for immediate answers to prayer, and what does persistent prayer reveal about our faith?
2. The sermon contrasts the prayers of the Pharisee and the tax collector in Luke 18. What does true humility in prayer look like in your own life, and how can we guard against praying to impress others rather than commune with God?
3. Nehemiah prayed silently before answering the king's question in verse 4. How can we cultivate the practice of seeking God's guidance in the midst of conversations and decisions rather than reacting immediately?
4. The king's heart was turned favorably toward Nehemiah's request, illustrating Proverbs 21:1. Can you identify times when God has sovereignly moved the hearts of authorities or others to accomplish His purposes in your life?
5. Nehemiah acknowledged that the good hand of God was upon him in verse 8. Why is it important to recognize and verbally acknowledge God's hand in our successes rather than taking personal credit?
6. Opposition arose immediately when Sanballat and Tobiah heard about the rebuilding project. Why does godly work often attract opposition, and how should believers respond when doing good is met with resistance?
7. Nehemiah conducted a nighttime inspection before revealing his full plan. What does this teach us about the balance between faith-filled action and wise, strategic planning in ministry?
8. The sermon emphasizes that Nehemiah created unity by saying we have a problem and we will fix it together. How does inclusive language and shared ownership strengthen the body of Christ in accomplishing God's work?
9. Nehemiah told the mockers that they had no portion, right, or claim in Jerusalem. When is it appropriate to establish clear boundaries with those who oppose God's work, and how do we do this with both firmness and grace?
10. The phrase where God guides, God provides concludes the sermon. How have you personally experienced God's provision following His clear guidance, and how does this truth encourage you in current uncertainties?