



**STONE BY
STONE**

LET US RISE AND BUILD

Prayer Devotional



LIVING STONES
SPANISH SPRINGS

WEEK 1 – ABIDE

Summary:

Nehemiah was in a prestigious position in the Kings court, but he was still in exile. Word has come to him through traveling Jews that the walls of Jerusalem are destroyed and the remnant of people left from the exile are scattered. Nehemiah 1 records his prayer to God. Nehemiah's relationship with God leads to honest prayer, repentance and a mission.

Nehemiah 1:4-11

Day 1: Abiding is about relationship. It is being honest, open, and obedient.

The first thing Nehemiah does is address God's glory, goodness, power and authority.

- Spend time today acknowledging God's power, mercy, righteousness and greatness.

Day 2: Nehemiah takes time to address the sins that the Jews and he have committed against God

- Confess to God three things you've tried to keep hidden from him. (He sees them anyway.)

Day 3: Nehemiah ends his prayer by asking for success in talking with the king about going back to Jerusalem. Nehemiah was likely intimidated and scared to ask but he knew that it was God's will. Nehemiah trusted that God would provide even when he was unsure of the outcome of the conversation.

- Tell God what you're afraid of. Then tell him who you believe in.

Day 4: Abide in your relationship with God today. Spend time thanking him for his provision, worshiping him in prayer and enjoying his presence.

- Center on God's presence today until you hear his "still, small voice."

Day 5: Is God telling you to do something like he was with Nehemiah? Can you hear his voice in your life and through your reading of the scriptures?

- Bow before God and ask, "What message does my Lord have for his servant." (You could do this every time you open your Bible.)

WEEK 2 – APPROACH

Summary:

Nehemiah is sent by the king back to Jerusalem. Nehemiah is seen approaching the project of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem and getting details to prepare. He is talking with people, inspecting the project and preparing.

Nehemiah 2:9-20

Day 1: Just as Nehemiah inspected the wall to see what needs to be done, we should inspect our lives and see where we can spread the gospel and where we need the gospel for ourselves.

- Pray for 5 people who need the Gospel. Ask God to save them.

Day 2: Nehemiah took time to evaluate the walls of Jerusalem and see where the work needed to be done. He had a heart for the city and a heart to protect it.

- Ask God to give you, and our whole church, his heart for our city and state.

Day 3: Part of the rebuilding process was to provide physical security for the people of Jerusalem. That security could lead to healing of the city and revival.

- Pray for healing and revelation for those needing God's touch

Day 4

- Pray for the City of Sparks and for a revival.

Day 5

- As we approach a large project it can seem unattainable or intimidating. Pray for God's vision and for him to go before us as we look for a permanent home in Spanish Springs.

WEEK 3 – ARISE

Summary:

Nehemiah has prepared the resources and the people.

They are ready to start the project.

Nehemiah 3:1-5, 28-32 4:19-23

Day 1: Are you ready to build spiritually in your community?

- Simply ask God to give you the courage to speak an apt spiritual word whenever you have the opportunity.

Day 2: Building takes resources and time. It is an intentional endeavor. The people of Jerusalem had to stop their normal rhythms for a time in order to devote themselves to building the wall

- Pray today for our mission in the world, and for a generous, risk-taking heart to do your part. Also pray that God would provide abundantly to his people so that we can give generously.

Day 3: Nehemiah was in charge of the building project. God used him to assemble, coordinate, protect, and ultimately finish the project.

- Pray for our elders and leaders as they lead this project. Specifically, that they would hear from God and be lead in the right direction and use resources and time to glorify God.

Day 4: We see in Nehemiah that everyone was involved in the rebuilding of the wall. Everyone came together for a common goal.

- Prayer for our church and for each member to be able to have a part in building.

Day 5; Our common goal through this campaign is to be able to have a permanent place where people can meet Jesus for generations.

- Pray for a permanent home for Living Stones Spanish Springs, where we can build a Christ centered culture that will endure for generations.

WEEK 4 – AWE

Summary:

The wall is complete. The risks from the outside world are not as great. This leads to a time of relative safety and reflection. Because the Jews have a safe place, there is a revival and repentance. This is the ultimate goal, not security or a place to dwell.

Nehemiah 12:37-38

Day 1: Just because the project is complete does not mean that all of the worries of life have left. Even in uncertainty, God does not change based on what we do or what has been done. He is the same forever.

- Today, cast your cares on the Lord, for he cares for you.

Day 2: This a joyous time in the Israelites history. They have their city back and they are grateful.

- Thank God for his great works in your life... from the small daily miracles to the monumental things.

Day 3: God is continuously moving in our lives and our world. He is actively involved in each and every one of our lives.

- Thank God for what he is going to do in our church and city. If you are not sure what he is doing, ask God to reveal that to you as a way to worship him.

Day 4: We see the people of Jerusalem repeat and turn back to God. There is joy and singing.

- Pray that the restoration of our wall (a new church) would lead to the same revival and repentance that the Jews experienced.

Day 5: This celebration in Nehemiah is just a foreshadowing of a time when all the believers of all time are together praising God and glorifying him. It is a taste of things to come.

- Pray for a passion to see this great Coming Together—Christ's reunion with his bride; the world's inclusion in his wedding feast.



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