

Problem Solving the Nehemiah Way

Decision making is a core leadership competency. It differentiates between good and bad, and between good and great leaders. Decisions affect everything a leader does and reveal values and intelligence. They require obedience to and dependence upon God. They demand wisdom and this comes from God. God wants us to use his wisdom to make decisions. Nehemiah is a leader that provides a pattern for “doing it right” and we will go into his book for an understanding.



Nehemiah faced a huge challenge: Jerusalem walls were in disrepair and the returned exiles were vulnerable and disheartened.



Here is how he approached the problem:

- Carefully studied the situation to acquire an understanding of the problem – Neh. 1:2-3
- Empathized with people who were hurting so his plan –Neh. 1:4
- Humbled himself before God and prayed – Neh. 1:4-11 (adored God, confessed his nation’s sin, made a request)
- Waited for the best opportunity to act – Neh. 2:1-10
- Quietly investigated the situation on arrival in Jerusalem – Neh. 2:11-16
- Assembled the players and communicated his vision – Neh. 2:17-20 (Leadership Bible)

Nehemiah effectively communicated his plan to rebuild Jerusalem’s walls and assured the crowd of God’s hands being upon them. Nehemiah continually prayed and made decisions that made it possible for them to focus on the project while keeping opposition at bay. The project was miraculously completed in 52 days.

The same God that Nehemiah depended upon is open and willing to guide you as you make decisions or solve problems. Give him a call there will be no busy signals or recorded voice asking you to leave a message.

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