

THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

Nehemiah 2:10-20, page 384

Main point: God empowers those who honestly assess their need for change and then trust God and begin.

- I. Expect resistance: As Nehemiah planned to rebuild Jerusalem, their enemies were disturbed (Nehemiah 2:10).
 - If you pursue change to do God's will, expect resistance.

- II. Assess accurately: Nehemiah privately assessed the broken wall and challenged leaders to rebuild (Nehemiah 2:11-16).
 - Assess areas God wants to transform.
 1. Behaviors that are sinful or spiritually distracting.
 2. Priorities that spiritually stunt you or your family.
 3. Attitudes that bind you in pride, fear, bitterness etc.

- III. Communicate and begin: Nehemiah communicated the need and God's leading, so they began (Nehemiah 2:17-18).
 - Verbalize the plan to those who are affected and needed.
 - Communicate confidence based on God's faithfulness.

- IV. Resist opposition: Jerusalem's neighbors ridiculed Nehemiah, but he reaffirmed his faith in God (Nehemiah 2:19-20).
- God's plans will always have God's power and provision.