

SERMON SERIES

NEHEMIAH:
Recommitting
God's People
to God's Glory



THE OPEN SECRET OF SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY

NEHEMIAH 2:1-20

Message Guide | March 21, 2021

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RECOMMITTING GOD'S PEOPLE TO GOD'S GLORY

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TODAY'S MESSAGE | MARCH 21, 2021

The Open Secret of Successful Ministry

Nehemiah 2:1-20

Some people cite a popular quote (author unknown) as a success secret; it says “Choose a job you love, and you’ll never have to work a day in your life”. That’s passion. We agree that it’s true, but in ministry and life (because all of life is ministry for the believer), it doesn’t necessarily come first.

So how did Nehemiah start out the right way, as he began rebuilding a city for God’s glory? The answer should interest you because it is the same answer to the question – “How do you live a fulfilled life that is successful in the eyes of God, the ultimate evaluator?”

BE THE RIGHT PERSON, ONE ON WHOM THE GOOD HAND OF GOD WILL BE. (Neh. 1:1-2:8)

- Being the right person starts with a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. When we turn to the Lord Jesus in faith because of our sins, He forgives the repentant and gives you a new heart - a “new center” (Heb. 10:15-16) and a new destiny (Eph. 1:7-14)
- As the right person, not only will the good hand of God be upon you (2:8), but God will put the right things in your heart. Without the right heart, the right “center”, all your inborn talent, connections, assets, resources, may come to nothing. You always start with the heart.

DO THE RIGHT THINGS, THOSE THAT GOD HAS LAID ON YOUR HEART. (Neh. 2:4-11)

- The most basic things are: (as exemplified by Nehemiah)
 - ✓ Prayer – extended seasons of prayer mark the person with a genuinely changed heart. Nehemiah prayed and fasted for this meeting for four months!
 - But riding on the background of prolonged prayer, is the necessity of quick but meaningful prayers (2:4). God listens to them too. The believer can thus literally pray without ceasing (1 Thes. 5:17)



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- ✓ Planning
 - By his well-thought-out reply, Nehemiah had obviously planned and prepared for this meticulously (2:5-8)
- ✓ Persistence
 - Whether you call it “follow through”, “execution”, or “implementation” – the best-laid plans are nothing without the will and diligence to execute them (2:7-11). You must keep at it till you get it. We still reap only what we really sow (Gal. 6:7-9).
- As we do these basic things well, God guides us along the way to the right decisions, as God lays on the right heart the right things to do.

DO THE RIGHT THINGS WITH PASSION AND EXCELLENCE. (Neh. 2:12-20)

- As God guides you to the right things to undertake, you have to work at them with:
 - 1) Passion: Nehemiah took his task seriously and was hard at work while everyone else was asleep. The next chapters bear this out.
 - 2) Excellence: Nehemiah did a thorough and meticulous tour of the area. He paid attention to the details. Then he made sure his passion and vision fired up the whole team, who later made things happen (Neh 6:15). That's excellence in a nutshell!
- Notice: Where God is at work, evil is always nearby (vv. 10, 19-20). Praying must never stop, because the enemy won't (Ephesians 6:17-19).

FINAL THOUGHTS

Whatever God called you to do, do it well as a believer because that's your ministry. Begin with the right heart, and God will guide you to the right things. Then do the right things with passion and excellence, for God's glory.

As this becomes the pattern of your life, you'll relate to what Jesus did, who “**for the joy that was set before Him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2). God chose a calling for you, and if your heart is right, you will never have to “work” another day in your life!



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it wrong to begin ministries or crucial undertakings with the dictum – “do things right”, even if you do things with passion and excellence? Philippians 3:4-6 is a testimony to help you answer this question.
2. Why is the dictum “do the right things” correct, but still not the most primary factor in ministry or crucial undertakings? Read Jonah chapters 3 and 4 (very short chapters) to know someone who did the right things but with the wrong heart.
3. Pray together and ask God that each and everyone in the family (or group) be persons whose hearts are completely devoted to God, so that you can clearly discern and then follow His will.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

BDO

BDO Corporate Center
Savings Account: **000661590216**

METROBANK

Ortigas Sapphire
Savings Account: **629-3-62919733-9**

CHINA BANK

Ortigas ADB
Savings Account: **1112-02006218**

BPI

Ortigas Emerald
Peso Savings Account: **9823 0217 01**

UNIONBANK

UB Plaza
Checking Account: **0005-9001-0426**

ROBINSONS BANK

Main Office
Savings Account: **1000-3010-0017-355**

PAYPAL

Please visit **gcf.org.ph/give**

Scan QR code below:

GCASH



PAYMAYA



Send a copy of your transaction document to **finance@gcf.org.ph** so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also give to support the church family's COVID relief efforts. Just indicate "**For COVID-19 Fund**" when you email your transaction document.

GCF RELIEF OPERATIONS FOR #UlyssesPH VICTIMS

We are accepting CASH donations for the typhoon victims. Email a copy of your transaction slip to **finance@gcf.org.ph** with the subject "Typhoon Ulysses"

CHURCH UPDATES



NO ON-SITE CONGREGATION

We are taking a break starting 21 March, 2021

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Mondays and Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

LIVEstream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | on [youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive](https://www.youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive)

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays | 1:00 p.m. | on Facebook at @GCFKidsLIFE

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays | 8:00 p.m. | 9 p.m. | via Zoom

YA TALKS TOUGH TOPICS: WOMEN LEADERSHIP IN THE CHURCH

Wednesday | 8:00 p.m. | LIVE on GCF Facebook and YouTube page with Pastor JP Kabuhat

DISCOVERING WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS (6-WEEK ONLINE BIBLE STUDY)

Sundays | 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | via Zoom

Pre-registration required: (Precept) Ms Goldie/Jen: 0917-7732378
(GCF) Marj: 0917-7791549

HOPE IS RISEN (RESURRECTION SUNDAY)

April 4, 2021 | 10:00 a.m. (Eng) 3:00 p.m. (Fil) | LIVE on GCF Facebook & YouTube page

CHRIST'S JOURNEY TO THE CROSS | STEPS TO CALVARY (HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONALS)

March 29 – April 2 | 8:00 p.m. | Live on GCF FB and YT page | April 3 | Family Devotions

JOIN OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY

FB: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | IG: [gcf.ortigas](https://www.instagram.com/gcf.ortigas) | YT: GCF Main

GROW IN A GROWTH GROUP

BURNING HEARTS CHRONICLES GROWTH GROUP COUPLES (AGE 30 TO 50)

Sundays | 8:00 a.m. | via Zoom | with Jon and Kleng Biscocho

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

Are you joining us for the first time? We would love to get to know you more! Visit bit.ly/GCFwelcome



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605
Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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