

ASK FOR HELP.

Nehemiah : Lesson 2 of 6 : MANUP.org

Q: What do you do when you don't know what to do?

A: You ASK for HELP!

You'll never go FAR if you go ALONE.

Discussion: Share a time when you needed help and you're glad you asked?

Nehemiah 2:1-4

¹ Early the following spring, in the month of Nisan, during the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was serving the king his wine. I had never before appeared sad in his presence. ² So the king asked me, "Why are you looking so sad? You don't look sick to me. You must be deeply troubled." Then I was terrified, ³ but I replied, "Long live the king! How can I not be sad? For the city where my ancestors are buried is in ruins, and the gates have been destroyed by fire." ⁴ The king asked, "Well, how can I help you?" *With a prayer to the God of heaven,*

Ask GOD for Help.

- Ask God for a vision that's bigger than you.
- Ask God for provision to match the vision.

"VISION is what could be and should be." - Andy Stanley

Nehemiah 2:5-8

⁵ I replied, "If it please the king, and if you are pleased with me, your servant, send me to Judah to rebuild the city where my ancestors are buried." ⁶ The king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked, "How long will you be gone? When will you return?" After I told him how long I would be gone, the king agreed to my request. ⁷ I also said to the king, "If it please the king, let me have letters addressed to the governors of the province west of the Euphrates River, instructing them to let me travel safely through their territories on my way to Judah. ⁸ And please give me a letter addressed to Asaph, the manager of the king's forest, instructing him to give me timber. I will need it to make beams for the gates of the Temple fortress, for the city walls, and for a house for myself." *And the king granted these requests, because the gracious HAND OF GOD was on me.*

Ask OTHERS for Help.

- Be PATIENT - be willing to wait for the right time.
- Be SPECIFIC - know what you need before you ask.
- Be BOLD - when it's time to go - GO BIG.

Nehemiah 2:9-10

⁹ When I came to the governors of the province west of the Euphrates River, I delivered the king's letters to them. The king, I should add, had sent along army officers and horsemen to protect me. ¹⁰ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard of my arrival, they were very displeased that someone had come to help the people of Israel.

Don't expect EVERYBODY to be happy with the vision that God gave YOU.

Nehemiah 2:11-15

¹¹ So I arrived in Jerusalem. Three days later, ¹² I slipped out during the night, taking only a few others with me. *I had not told anyone about the plans God had put in my heart for Jerusalem.* We took

no pack animals with us except the donkey I was riding. ¹³ After dark I went out through the Valley Gate, past the Jackal's Well, and over to the Dung Gate to inspect the broken walls and burned gates. ¹⁴ Then I went to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but my donkey couldn't get through the rubble. ¹⁵ So, though it was still dark, I went up the Kidron Valley instead, inspecting the wall before I turned back and entered again at the Valley Gate.

Don't expect your God-Given Vision to be EASY.

Nehemiah 2:16-20

¹⁶ The city officials did not know I had been out there or what I was doing, for I had not yet said anything to anyone about my plans. I had not yet spoken to the Jewish leaders - the priests, the nobles, the officials, or anyone else in the administration.

¹⁷ But now I said to them, "You know very well what trouble we are in. Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire. Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace!"

¹⁸ Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, "Yes, let's rebuild the wall!" So they began the good work...

²⁰ Nehemiah replied, "The God of heaven will help us succeed. We, his servants, will start rebuilding this wall."

You'll never go FAR if you go ALONE!

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Ask Yourself:

Q: Where do you need HELP?

Q: Who are you going to ASK?