

HGQ Please send me Nehemiah 2 : 1 – 8 Yvonne Fry

In chapter 1 of Nehemiah we read how Nehemiah reacted to the sad news about the broken walls in Jerusalem. You might like to read Nehemiah 's prayer in chapter 1 v 5 -11

What can we learn from his prayer when we bring our concerns to God ?

Nehemiah spent some days in prayer then he asked God to give him success with the king today. But he had to wait nearly 4 months before he spoke to the king about the situation. When we learn of a need we may feel we want to do something about it immediately.

Do we find it difficult to wait for God 's timing ?
You might want to share examples you might have had of waiting

As Nehemiah waited and prayed he realised that he would need to be part of the answer to his prayers.

Have you ever had this experience ?

When the opportunity came to speak to the king about his sadness and concern, Nehemiah was suddenly very afraid.

Have there been any times when you have felt afraid when you were about to be involved in a challenging conversation or situation ?

Nehemiah had to choose his words carefully as he presented the problem to the king. He knew he needed the king 's authority and permission to restart building work in Jerusalem. See Ezra 4 :11 – 21. Before speaking he prayed a silent “ arrow “ prayer to God.

Have you ever prayed “ arrow “ prayers to God ?

During his time of waiting and praying Nehemiah also considered his practical needs for safe travel and the building materials he might need.

Are there things we can learn if we are hoping to be involved in a situation of need? Do we need to consider family or work commitments?

Read Neh. 2 v 8

Do we remember to tell others about God 's graciousness and his answers to our prayers ?

