

# NEHEMIAH



## The Integrated Leader

Integrating faith into every area of our lives

# INTEGRATING MY OPPORTUNITIES, PASSIONS & INTERESTS



NEHEMIAH 1:1-3

*“The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. They said to me, ‘Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.’”*



# STEP 1 FOR NEHEMIAH (AND US)

## CONCERN!

Example- Question- “What are your goals?”

Answer- “Survival!”

Response- “God intended us to *flourish!* He intended us to *conquer!*”

**Romans 8:37-** “We are *more than conquerors!* (Greek- “Huper-nikao- “Hyper-conquerors”!)”

**Ephesians 3:20-21-** “Now to Him who is able to do **immeasurably more** than all we ask or imagine...”

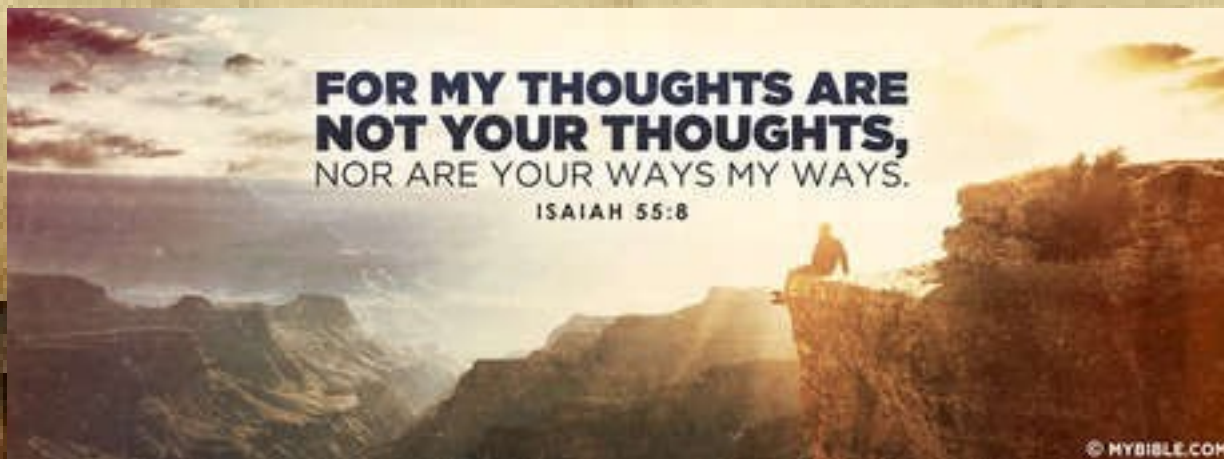


# “REALITY CHECKLIST”

(FROM “INQUEST MINISTRIES”)

- 1) Discovery of our purpose is not just about the “End Product”, but about the process.

*Isa. 55:8-9- “ ‘For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,’ declares the LORD. ‘As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.’ ”*



# “REALITY CHECKLIST”

- 2) Discovery of our purpose is an “**unfolding**”, a revelation as we enter into this process

**Galatians 4:19-** God’s ultimate purpose for us- “...until Christ is formed in you...”

**Phil. 3:12-14**



But one thing I do:  
Forgetting what is behind and  
straining toward what is ahead,  
I press on toward the goal  
to win the prize  
for which God has called me  
heavenward in Christ Jesus.  
Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)

# “REALITY CHECKLIST”



3) Discovery & accomplishment of our purpose will take a focus of our time, energy & money.

- ✘ "For Now" vs. "Focus"
- ✘ Patience and perseverance are needed!
- ✘ "Revelation" not just "Reason"
- ✘ "Isaac" not "Ishmael" (see *Galatians 4:21-31*)



# “REALITY CHECKLIST”

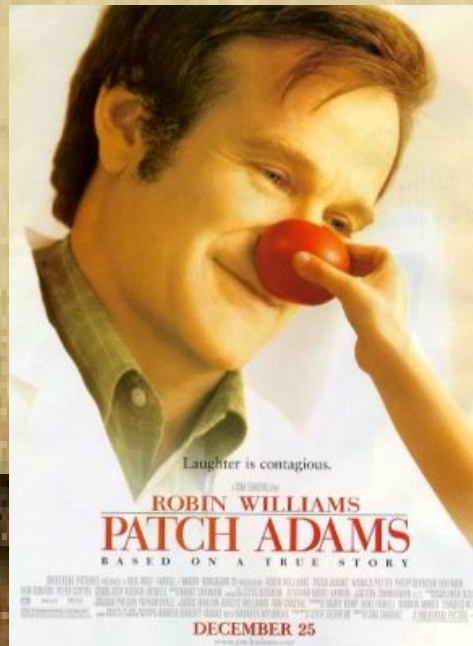
- 4) Discovery and accomplishment of our purpose is not found in:
- × Career
  - × Marrying the right person
  - × money, fame, power, pleasure
    - + (see Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13-14)
  - × It IS found in- right relatedness (to God, to others)

# VIDEO- "PATCH ADAMS"



“What’s the patient’s name?”

“What’s her story?”



# NEHEMIAH BEGAN THIS PROCESS BY asking questions

**Nehemiah 1:1-3-** *“The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. They said to me, ‘Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.’”*



# ***DEFINITION OF DISCIPLESHIP (MARTIN SANDERS)***

Discipling others is the process by which...

Example  
with a life worth emulating...

a Christian

Commitment

commits himself...

Time

for an

extended period of time...

Numerical Limitations

to a few individuals...

## ***PHASE 1:***

Evangelism

who have been won to Christ...

Direction

the purpose being...

Guardianship

to aid and guide...

## ***PHASE 2:***

Growth

their growth

to maturity and equip them...

## ***PHASE 3:***

Reproduction

to reproduce themselves in a

third spiritual

generati



## **MENTORING & ACCOUNTABILITY- BIBLICAL EXAMPLE- EXODUS 18- MOSES & JETHRO**

**Vs. 13-** Moses- **made decisions for the people by himself!** Worked from early morning to late night”

**Vs. 14-15-** When his father-in-law, Jethro, asked him what he was doing, Moses answered, “Because the people come to me to seek God’s will. Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God’s decrees and laws.”

**“I am indispensable to this process!”**

**Trying to do the job alone!** (“Parallel Play”)



## JETHRO'S RESPONSE TO MOSES?

*Vs. 17-18-* “**What you are doing is not good.** You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone.”

*Vs. 19-23 -* **A plan for multiplication of leadership** (A Biblical model for leadership development)



# A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 1) Truly lead the people by being the primary “equipper” of the people

vs. 19- “You must be the people’s representative before God and bring their disputes to Him.”

### 3 levels of leadership- (John Maxwell)

- ✦ Impression
- ✦ Influence
- ✦ Investment



**Matthew 9:35-38**- "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

# A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 2) Select qualified leaders

vs. 21- “But select *capable men* from all the people- men who *fear God*, *trustworthy* men who *hate dishonest gain...*”



# A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 3) *Divide them into small groups*

vs. 21- "...and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens..."



# A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 4) Train and equip your leaders

*vs. 20-* “Teach them the decrees and laws, and **show them:** the *way to live* and the *duties they are to perform.*”

*Matthew 28:20-* “teach them to **obey** (*observe*) everything I have commanded you.”



# A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 5) Follow up with your leaders

*Vs. 22-* “Have them **serve** as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every **difficult case** to you; the simple cases they can **decide themselves...**”



## THE RESULT?

vs. 24-27- Moses listened to his father-in-law, and the people's needs were met, and everyone went home satisfied.

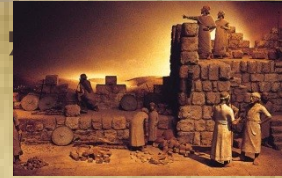


# MOSES EXHIBITED THE QUALITIES OF A GOOD LEADER:

- ✘ A good leader will consider his **limitations**.
- ✘ A good leader will take **advice** and use it.
- ✘ A good leader realizes some work is more important than others (especially the area of equipping new leaders-**“mentoring”**).
- ✘ A good leader will still have plenty to do, even after work has been **shared**!



# VIDEO- "REMEMBER THE TITANS"



Gettysburg



# MENTORING- JESUS & THE DISCIPLES

“Master Plan of Discipleship”

Key words:

**Selection**

**Association**

**Consecration**

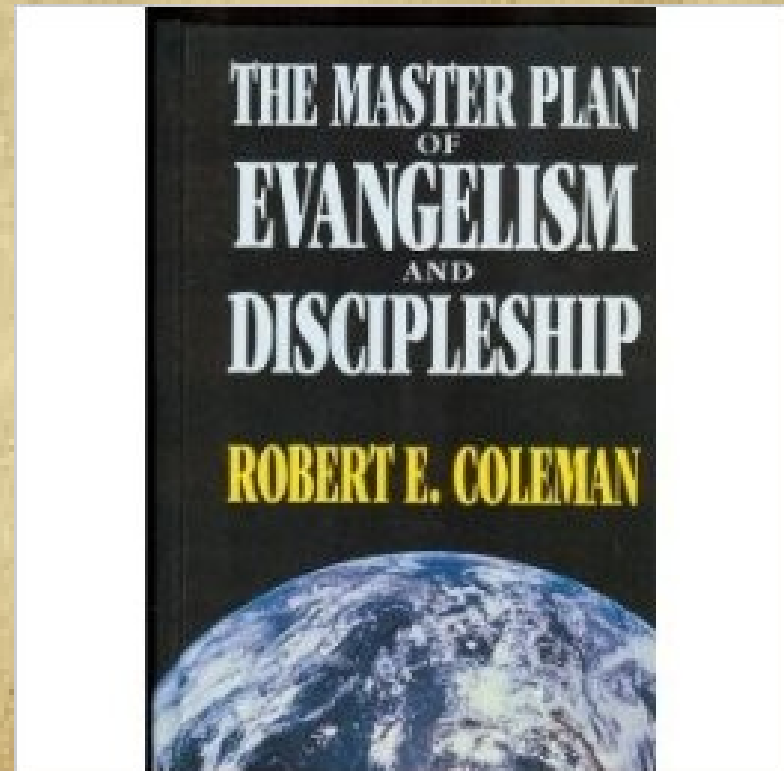
**Impartation**

**Demonstration**

**Delegation**

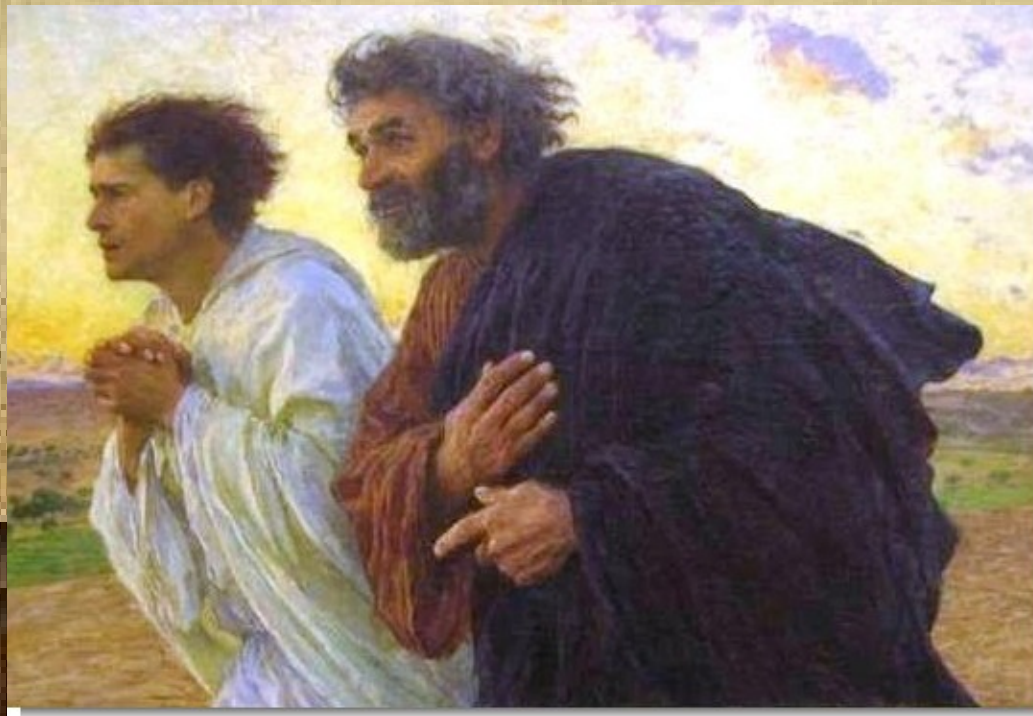
**Supervision**

**Reproduction**



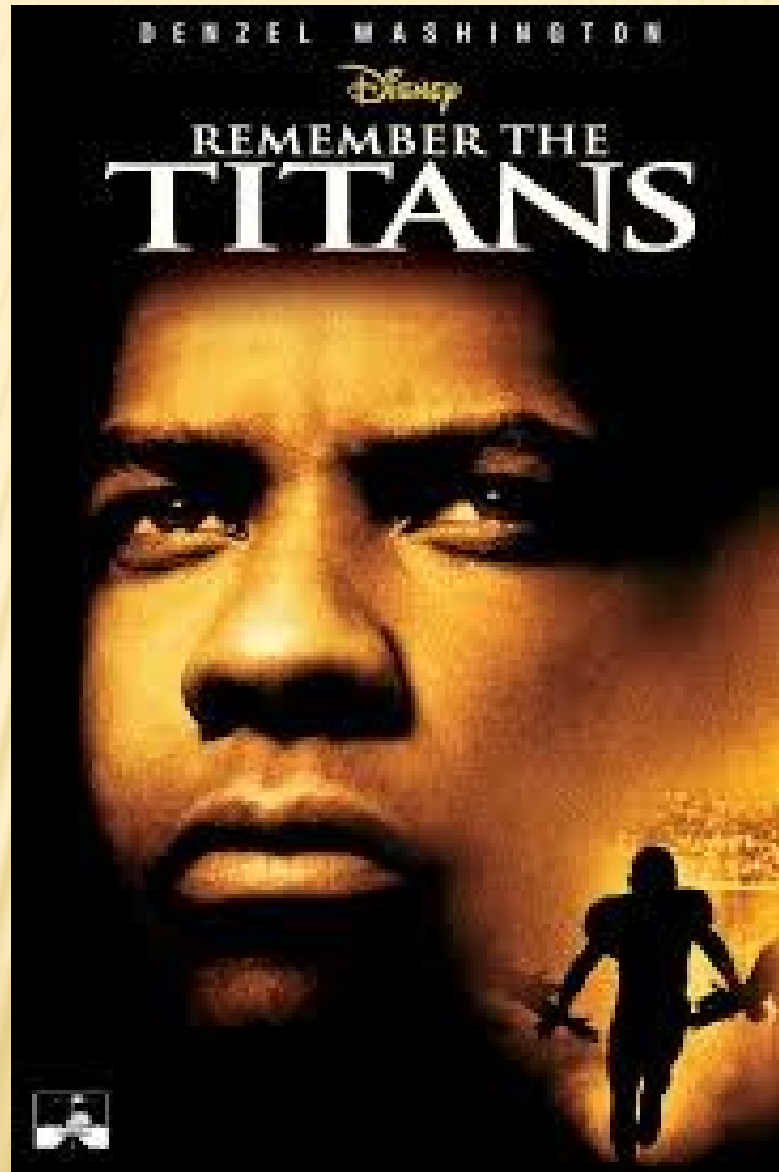
## BIBLICAL EXAMPLE- PAUL, BARNABAS & TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 2:2- “And the things *you* have heard *me* say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to *reliable people* who will also be qualified to *teach others*.”



# MENTORING- “REMEMBER THE TITANS”

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# APPLICATION

## Application:

- ✦ As Nehemiah asked questions to assess the situation and the need, so also the integrated leader needs to begin the process of living purposefully by asking questions about himself/herself.

## Application Questions

- ✦ P. 25-26-Who is a mentor to me at the present time?
- ✦ How and when should I approach this person?
- ✦ What should I ask him/her?



## **STEP 2- COMMUNION WITH GOD- NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER**

**Nehemiah 1:4-7-** *“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. Then I said:*

*“Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s family, have committed against you. We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.”*

## STEP 2- COMMUNION WITH GOD- NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER

**Nehemiah 1:8-11-** *“Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.’*

*“They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.”*  
*I was cupbearer to the king.*

# PRAYER

- ✘ Move from “desire to discipline to delight”
- ✘ Jesus- “My house shall be called a house of prayer”
- ✘ Prayer partners
- ✘ Prayer notebook



# PRAYER

## Application:

- ✦ As Nehemiah prayed fervently about the need, so also we need to pray fervently that the Lord will make our purpose clear to us.

## Application Question:

- ✦ What is my prayer plan to find out my life purpose (e.g.- quiet time, reading, prayer journal, prayer with others, prayer with a mentor)?



# SPECIFIC PRAYERS:

- ✦ Nehemiah's **COMPULSION**- He prayed with *passion* (vs. 4)-  
“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned”

Nehemiah *felt* things about the situation. He developed a *passion* for what he was about to do.



# JESUS' PASSION



**John 11:35-** “Jesus wept.” (Weeping with those who weep)

**Luke 19:41-44-** “As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he **wept** over it and said, ‘If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace--but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you.” (Weeping for the lost)

# PASSION FOR THE LOST!

Jeremiah 20:8-9- *“His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.”*

Paul- Acts 20:22-24- *“I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.”*



# PASSION FOR THE LOST!

Video- William Booth- His vision for Lost People



## APPLICATION

As Nehemiah prayed with passion and felt strongly about the situation, so also we need to ask God to develop a passion for what we are about to do.

**Application Question- P. 32-** Are there tasks and goals about which I say, “This one thing I *must* do...*my heart burns* to accomplish this?”





# Nehemiah's CONSECRATION FASTING and PRAYER

- ✘ There are biblical passages about both “Feasting & Fasting”
- ✘ Fasting as a spiritual discipline
- ✘ **Matthew 6:16-18-** Twice, Jesus said, “When you fast...” (he assumed that we would fast)
- ✘ **The Church- Acts 13:2-3-** At a key turning point in his ministry- preceded by fasting & prayer- “*While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'* So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.”

## APPLICATION

As Nehemiah fasted and prayed, and dedicated himself completely to the task before him, so also we need to enter into a process of fasting and praying, so that we might dedicate ourselves completely to the task the Lord has for us.

**P. 35-** Do I have a plan for *fasting* as well as prayer to get clarity for my purpose and vision? What things am I willing to *sacrifice* to pursue my purpose and my vision?

**FASTING**  
**AND PRAYER**

# ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT WEEK



- ✘ Read Chap. 3-4- Swindoll
- ✘ Read Amerman- Chap. 3- “Integrating My History” (p. 37-42)
- ✘ In your journal, prayerfully think through and answer application questions- p. 37-42 (“My Life Graph”)
- ✘ Complete a “Family Genogram”
- ✘ Swindoll- Write two paragraphs (100 words each)- summaries of Chapters 3-4

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