



**Building Fathers House**  
A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

Sharing

**Elijah Prayer Discipleship School**

Becoming an instrument of prayer

[www.buildingfathershouse.org](http://www.buildingfathershouse.org)

*(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)*

## **Workshop no. 29 : “A vision birthed in prayer” - prayer is the power of God manifesting on earth as we come in agreement with the perfect will of God.**

**Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. (KJV)**

**Romans 8:28 We are assured and know that God being a partner in their labor all things work together and are fitting into a plan for good to and for those who love God and are called according to His design and purpose. (AMP)**

**Purpose of this workshop:** To consider prayer as the starting point to do God's will.

**Intended Goal:** To encourage the believer to seek God's vision and purpose, and then to walk in obedience!

### **Scripture readings :**

*Nehemiah 1:4-11 And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven, And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses. Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there. Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and*

*prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer.*

**Nehemiah 2:8** *And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.*

**Nehemiah 2:12** *And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.*

**Deuteronomy 3:24** *O Lord GOD, thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand: for what God is there in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might?*

**Judges 18:5** *And they said unto him, Ask counsel, we pray thee, of God, that we may know whether our way which we go shall be prosperous.*

**Isaiah 58:1-2** *Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.*

**Romans 13:1-2** *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.*

**Exodus 2:24** *And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.*

**Exodus 6:5** *And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant.*

**Exodus 23:32** *Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods.*

**2 Samuel 22:3** *The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.*

**Psalms 2:12** *Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.*

**Psalms 9:10** *And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.*

**Psalms 18:2** *The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*

**Psalm 25:2** *O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.*

**Psalm 62:8** *Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.*

**Proverbs 29:25** *The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.*

**Proverbs 30:5** *Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.*

**Jeremiah 7:3-4** *Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.*

**Nahum 1:7** *The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.*

**Psalm 143:1** *A Psalm of David. Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, and in thy righteousness.*

## **Food for thought :**

Nehemiah, was a servant in the courts of the king of Babylon - he was just a man, a descendant of Aaron. But he became well know, not because of who he was but because he choose to walk in obedience to the call of God, a call birthed (revealed) in prayer.

Nehemiah was born in Babylon, in exile and he never visited his homeland, but his heart was always towards the God of Israel, the covenant God. So when he heard the news of Jerusalem he immediately turn to God in confession of sin, for he knew that the state of Jerusalem is not due to God's inability, for if God be with them who can be against them. He knew that the problem is with the people sinning against their God, so he repented on behalf of the people and included himself and his family. He became the servant leader, who serve unto God on behalf of the people.

God, knew Nehemiah and waited for this servant leader to come into his position to be used to the glory of God. It was in this time of confession that God revealed His plans to Nehemiah. Prayer was the key in initiating God's plans, and not any prayer but the prayer of a servant leader based on the relationship. God is looking for leaders who's heart is directed unto Him, who are prepared to build a hedge around the people and standing in the gap (confessing their sin before God, asking for forgiveness) for them so that God can intervene.

Nehemiah prevail in prayer for days, and it is in those days that he received the vision (*Nehemiah 2:12* ".....*God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem...*") from God, to go and rebuild the city of Jerusalem. Being a servant leader, he did not arise in strength to lead a nation, no he submitted in humble obedience before God to open the way, praying unto God to open the heart of the king of Babylon, to grant him (Nehemiah) favor to go. Nehemiah knew his position in the courts of the king, but more important he knew God and what God can do. It is for this reason that it is important to notice that he did not give credit to anybody but to God when he received favor (*Nehemiah 2:8* " .... *And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.*")

Also when the temptations came to discourage them, Nehemiah did not consider the discouragement he considered His God (*Nehemiah 2:20* *Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial in Jerusalem.*)

The world tend to talk about success and successfulness, but in considering Nehemiah he overcame in obedient trust in God. As Paul said *Romans 8:28* *We are assured and know that God being a partner in their labor all things work together and are fitting into a plan for good to and for those who love God and are called according to His design and purpose. (AMP)*.

We can learn from Nehemiah, the servant leader who became a mighty leader - not by might nor by power but by the Spirit of God.

- First things first : Nehemiah's first reaction was towards God, he did not consider Jerusalem he considered the sin of the people (including himself and his family) in the face of God. (**First Love**) Nehemiah as servant leader, first acknowledge that his service is unto God in the knowledge of who God is.
  - His first reaction is to turn to God for guidance.
  - Acknowledge God's ability in comparison to the inability of people.
  - He looks not for excuses but acknowledge his own faults and seek forgiveness.
- Secondly : When he receive a revelation/vision in relationship to God he act in obedience to God, not considering circumstance or his own position, he then walks by faith and not by sight, trusting in God to bring His plan in fulfillment. (He does not have his own plan but follow the plan of God). (Commitment)
- Thirdly : He will not take credit for himself, but will always give credit to God for everything, God is doing. (Loyalty)
- Fourth : He will not allow temptation to draw him from trusting in God and God's ability to fulfill what He started. (Faithfulness)

**For Nehemiah, prayer was not a response based upon a need, but a response based on a relationship with a covenant God.**

**For Nehemiah, prayer was not a last resource, it was a first reaction based upon the knowledge of who God is.**

**For Nehemiah, prayer was not part of his live, it was his life.**

## **True stories :**

A small congregation in the foothills of the Great Smokies built a new sanctuary on a piece of land willed to them by a church member. Ten days before the new church was to open, the local building inspector informed the pastor that the parking lot was inadequate for the size of the building.

Until the church doubled the size of the parking lot, they would not be able to use the new sanctuary. Unfortunately, the church with its undersized parking lot had used every inch of their land except for the mountain against which it had been built. In order to build more parking spaces, they would have to move the mountain out of the back yard.

Undaunted, the pastor announced the next Sunday morning that he would meet that evening with all members who had "mountain moving faith." They would hold a prayer session asking God to remove the mountain from the back yard and to somehow provide enough money to have it paved and painted before the scheduled opening dedication service the following week.

At the appointed time, 24 of the congregation's 300 members assembled for prayer. They prayed for nearly three hours. At ten o'clock the pastor said the final "Amen". "We'll open next Sunday as scheduled," he assured everyone. "God has never let us down before, and I believe He will be faithful this time too."

The next morning as he was working in his study there came a loud knock at his door. When he called "come in", a rough looking construction foreman appeared, removing his hard hat as he entered.

"Excuse me, Reverend. I'm from Acme Construction Company over in the next county. We're building a huge new shopping mall over there and we need some fill dirt. Would you be willing to sell us a chunk of that mountain behind the church? We'll pay you for the dirt we remove and pave all the exposed area free of charge, if we can have it right away. We can't do anything else until we get the dirt in and allow it to settle properly."

The little church was dedicated the next Sunday as originally planned and there were far more members with "mountain moving faith" on opening Sunday than there had been the previous week!

- Author Unknown

## **God's authority :**

*John 15:7-12 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

**John 15:16** *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

**John 16:23** *And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.*

**Ephesians 2:10** *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

**Luke 1:71-75** *That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; The oath which he sware to our father Abraham, That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear; In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.*

**Jeremiah 7:3-4** *Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.*

**2 Corinthians 3:4-6** *And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*

## **Conclusion :**

In Ephesians 2:10 we have been recreated in Christ Jesus to do the good works that God predestined for us to do - a calling. God not only predestined the calling but He through His Son Jesus Christ equipped each one of us to fulfill our purpose, not by our might nor power but by the Spirit of God.

We received the Holy Spirit and consequent gifts, so that we can do what God called us to do, to build a dwelling place for God in the Spirit. But it takes more than just being, it takes a high calling in the likeness of Nehemiah - a commitment in service to Christ Jesus.

Authority is the result of commitment, loyalty and faithfulness. Looking at *Hebrew 12:2-4* *Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.* We are encouraged to walk in commitment, loyalty and faithfulness with our eyes upon Jesus so that we can come into the position of authority.

**Only those whose commitment to the Kingdom of God is greater than their commitment to this world will be trusted with Kingdom authority over this world.** True commitment is more than an emotion or a promise—it is demonstrated by how we conduct our lives. Could we say that we are devoted more to the Kingdom than to this world? II Corinthians 13:5 says to “**test yourselves to see if you are in the faith.**”

**How do you test if you are in faith :**

- **To who do you turn when you receive any temptation/bad news.**
- **How do you react on a word from God - obedience/excuses.**
- **Who do you give credit to - is it about you or is it about God.**
- **What is your reaction when you receive resistance.**

**Based on the mentioned, is your love towards Christ Jesus growing. Remember Jesus said "If you love Me you will obey Me".** There is no greater affront to a relationship than indifference. This is why the Lord said that He would rather us be hot or cold, but the lukewarm He will spew out of His mouth (see Revelation 3:15-16). **How could anyone truly know Almighty God, the All-Consuming Fire, and not be on fire for Him?**

How could we who have been chosen to serve the King of kings be indifferent about our service to Him?

We are entering the times when no one will make it who has not built their house solidly on the Rock Jesus Christ.

Jesus our bridegroom deserves a bride that is so in love with Him that the primary devotion of our lives is being ready for Him. *Ephesians 5:25-27 Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.*

**Questions to be answered :**

1. What made Nehemiah well know?
2. Describe the circumstance were in Nehemiah received God's plan?
3. What is the four lessons we can learn from Nehemiah?
4. Explain Kingdom authority and how do we receive it?
5. What bride is Jesus expecting?

