

1. Reflecting on Nehemiah's response to the fallen walls of Jerusalem, how can we emulate his approach to seeking God's guidance after receiving bad news? (Nehemiah 1:5-11)
2. In times of personal tragedy, like that of Horatio Spafford, how can we find the strength to declare, "It is well with my soul," and what does this reveal about the power of faith in our lives? (Job 13:15)
3. How does Nehemiah's humility and his role as a cupbearer inform our understanding of approaching God in prayer, regardless of our status or position? (Nehemiah 1:11)
4. How can the act of fasting amplify our prayers, and why might this practice be significant during seasons of discernment and seeking God's will? (Matthew 6:16-18)
5. Discuss the intimate nature of prayer as an ongoing conversation with God. How can this perspective transform our daily prayer life? (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
6. In the sermon, it was mentioned that prayer is the "great equalizer." How can this concept encourage us to pray with confidence, knowing that God hears us regardless of our circumstances? (James 5:16)
7. How can acknowledging our sins and failings, as Nehemiah did, lead to a more authentic and powerful prayer experience? (1 John 1:9)
8. Nehemiah trusted God to grant him favor in the presence of authority. How can we cultivate a similar trust in God's provision and guidance when we face daunting tasks or requests? (Proverbs 3:5-6)
9. The sermon highlighted that God can use unexpected means to answer our prayers, sometimes even involving those who do not share our faith. Share a time when you've experienced God's provision in an unexpected way. (Isaiah 55:8-9)
10. How does the concept of a covenant with God shape our expectations and understanding of prayer? In what ways does this influence our commitment to God's will? (Jeremiah 31:33)
11. How does Nehemiah's prayer in chapter 1, verses 5 through 11, model the importance of revering God's name in our prayers, and how can this reverence affect the way we approach God? (Psalm 29:2)
12. Considering the assertion from the sermon that "faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the staircase," how can we apply this principle when facing uncertainty in our lives? (Hebrews 11:1)