



## “Two Prayers And a Promise”

Nehemiah 7:4-5, 8:1-3, 5-6

What puts us in a position to know the full blessing of God every day of our lives? Prayer!

### I. Prayer for humble favor

#### A. Nehemiah the cupbearer

*“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, <sup>6</sup>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.” Neh. 1:5-6*

*“Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.” Neh. 1:11b*

### II. Prayer for God to strengthen my hands

#### A. Nehemiah the wallbuilder

*“Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed.” But I prayed, ‘Now strengthen my hands.’ ” Neh. 6:9b*

*“Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;” Romans 5:3*

#### An important insight revealed

*“Now the city was large and spacious, but there were few people in it, and the houses had not yet been rebuilt. <sup>5</sup>So my God put it into my heart to assemble the nobles, the officials and the common people for registration by families. I found the genealogical record of those who had been the first to return.” Neh. 7:4-5*

In the end, everything we do in our daily lives for God is about relationships.

Nehemiah Series / week 7

Pastor Jay Passavant

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Three simple steps to be used by God every day:

1. See a need (Neh. 7:4)
2. Let God stir your heart (Neh. 7:5)
3. Act on that prompting (Neh. 7:5b)

III. The promise: the joy of the Lord is your strength! Neh. 8:10

God’s word, simply declared, brings the first revival. The people learned the gift of celebration of God’s covenant love.

Application: Begin every day with 2 prayers and a promise and expect to see God’s hand of favor in all of your relationships!

### Small Group Questions or Personal Reflection

1. Is there anything right now that is “breaking your heart” in terms of people that are far from God?
2. Are you comfortable with praying for God’s success and favor as you do with others?
3. When is the last time you felt weary in the fulfillment of your calling and needed God to “strengthen your hands”?
4. Have you ever put “tasks” in front of “people”? Why are we so inclined to miss the centrality of relationships? Our journey is not about buildings and budgets and big events; it’s about bringing other people to Jesus!