# Stepping Into...

## **Godly Leadership**

### "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies."

**Mother Teresa** 

#### **God Interrupts Us...**

Neh. 1:2-4 NLT <sup>2</sup> Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men... <sup>3</sup> They said to me, "Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire." <sup>4</sup> When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.

#### God Positions Us to Respond...

Neh. 1:11 NLT <sup>11</sup> O Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honouring you. Please grant me success today by making the king favourable to me. Put it into his heart to be kind to me."

In those days I was the king's cup-bearer.

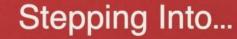


#### God Navigates the Timing...

Neh. 2:1-3 NLT <sup>1</sup>Early the following spring, in the month of Nisan, during the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was serving the king his wine. I had never before appeared sad in his presence. <sup>2</sup> So the king asked me, "Why are you looking so sad? You don't look sick to me. You must be deeply troubled." Then I was terrified, <sup>3</sup> but I replied, "Long live the king! How can I not be sad? For the city where my ancestors are buried is in ruins, and the gates have been destroyed by fire."

#### **God Opens Doors & Provides Resources**

Neh. 2:4-5 NLT <sup>4</sup> The king asked, "Well, how can I help you?" With <u>a prayer</u> to the God of heaven, <sup>5</sup> I replied, "If it please the king, and if you are pleased with me, your servant, send me to Judah to rebuild the city where my ancestors are buried."



#### **Leaders Overcome Opposition**

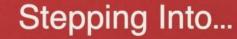
#### Neh. 2:9-10 NLT <sup>9</sup> When I came to the governors of the province west of the Euphrates River, I delivered the king's letters to them. The king, I should add, had sent along army officers and horsemen to protect me. <sup>10</sup> But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard of my arrival, they were very displeased that someone had come to help the people of Israel.

"We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations."

**Chuck Swindoll** 

#### **Exceptional Outcomes**

Neh. 6:15-16 NLT <sup>15</sup> So on October 2 the wall was finished—just fifty-two days after we had begun. <sup>16</sup> When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God.



### "A man who would not die for something is not fit to live."

Martin Luther King Jr.

#### Jesus - Ultimate Leadership Example

Mark 14:22-24 NLT

<sup>22</sup> As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Take it, for this is my body." <sup>23</sup> And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "This is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice for many.

Luke 22:42 ESV "...not my will, but yours, be done."

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