

UNSETTLED Nehemiah 1

The Setting:

The Lessons:

- 1) Don't ignore the <u>unsettled</u> issues.
- 2) Allow time for your spirit to <u>grieve</u> and your heart to <u>connect</u> with God.
- 3) Channel your unsettled issues into prayer.
 - Seek the God of power and love.
 - Seek the God of forgiveness and restoration.
 - Seek the God who can move the immovable.

The Application:

- 1) Prayer is a <u>first response</u> not a <u>last resort</u>.
- 2) Prayer is a <u>bridge</u> from here to the action.
- 3) Prayer aligns my plans with God's priorities.

MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1. What is unsettling you? If one thing in your life or your world could change in 2019, what would it be?
- 2. Look at Nehemiah's response in 1:3-4. Why is it so important to allow time for grieving and praying? What are the distractions that would keep you from going there?
- 3. Read 1:5-11 and list all the characteristics of God in Nehemiah's prayer. How do these characteristics encourage you?
- 4. Is prayer your first response or your last resort? Share some answers to prayer you have received.

MEMORY VERSE

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen. **Ephesians 3:20-21**