

Praying before you ask the king

Nehemiah 1:1-11

1 Eat

Read the passage slowly, read it again, then retell it in your own words. If you can't retell it, read it once more.

☐ Read ☐ Reread ☐ Retell

2 Digest

Answer from what the passage actually says — stay in the text.

1. What does this show me about God?

Nehemiah spends most of the prayer on who God is and what God promised, before he asks for anything. What does he know about God?

2. What does it show me about people — and about me?

He includes himself when he confesses — "I and my father's house have sinned." Why does he not just blame everybody else?

3. What will I obey this week?

What are you about to do that you should pray about first? When will you pray?

4. Who will I tell?

Who is worried about something far away that they cannot fix? What could you do together?

3 Grow

Growth is God's part, not yours. Do the cycle faithfully and trust Him to give the growth (1 Corinthians 3:6–7).

★ Pray

God, Nehemiah heard terrible news and sat down and prayed for days before he did anything else. Help me talk to you first instead of last.



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