



The Teaching Ministry of Pastor P.A. Harvin

## **Men's Bible Study Series: 7 Things Winners Do**

### **#3 – They Inspire Others - Key Passages: Nehemiah**

#### **Let's Talk About Influence**

**As men, we must understand the power of influence**

- ❖ Influence: the capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something, or the effect itself (Oxford Dictionary)
  - Character – Prov. 27:17; Acts 6:3
  - Development – Luke 22:32; Acts 18:25-27
  - Behavior – Titus 2:1-6

**We must also understand our sphere of influence**

- ❖ Those that will hear you before they will hear anyone else – John 10:27; John 1:12

**The power and breadth of your influence comes from the power influencing you**

Mat. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

#### **Let's Talk About Inspiration**

**The level of influence we have with others increases our capacity to inspire others**

- ❖ Inspiration: the process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative (Oxford Dictionary)
- ❖ Inspire: 1. to fill (someone) with the urge or ability to do or feel something, especially to do something creative; 2. Breathe in (air); inhale
  - Latin meaning to breathe or blow into
- ❖ Spiritually, we are inspired by God to accomplish His purposes – 2 Tim. 3:16

#### **Our Key Passages: Nehemiah**

- ❖ Some 15 years after Ezra (rebuilt the temple) yet the walls of Jerusalem are still in ruin
- ❖ There was an attempt to rebuild the walls (win) in Ezra 4:6-23, but it failed because of the influence of their enemies
- ❖ Prior to, people of God have been in Babylonian captivity for some 70 years but given opportunity to return to Jerusalem which not many did at the time.
  - Speaks of the bondage of internalized slavery, lack and spiritual poverty
  - Because of past sins and failures, people stopped trying to rebuild walls though the temple eventually was rebuilt

### **Nehemiah's Awareness (1:1-3)**

- ❖ Before you can be most effective inspiring others, you need to know what you're up against...
- ❖ He is living in a Persian palace in the capital of Persia and still has his mind on the people and city of God – Psa. 137:5-6
- ❖ The report: the people and the walls were in bad shape
  - No boundaries...no protection – for us, no boundaries, exposure to spiritual attacks
- Samson – Judges 13-16; 2 Sam. 11; 2 Tim. 2:20-22

### **Be Inspired Before You Try to Inspire Others (1:4-11)**

- ❖ Nehemiah takes the whole matter to God in prayer. Notice that he is praying for God to be with him as he acts – 1:11; 1 Sam. 30:8

### **Being Real Despite the Risks (2:1-9)**

- ❖ He comes before the king with a sad countenance – Esther 4:2
  - King recognized it was not a physical ailment but a spiritual issue – 2:2
- ❖ Made a request based upon the favor he had established prior with the king
- ❖ Because he was a source of inspiration, the king gave him what he needed and wanted to know when he would return – 2:6-9

### **Expected Places of Opposition (2:10)**

- ❖ From the known enemy – Neh. 2:10;
  - Neh. 2:10: Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem
- ❖ From the enemy influencers within – Neh.3:1-5

### **How to Inspire Others**

- , Know your assignment and be inspired yourself – Neh. 2:11-16
- , Acknowledge where things are at but give vision for where they can go – Neh. 2:17-18
  - Note the mind of the people in Neh. 4:6
- , Expect opposition – Neh. 2:19; 4:1-3;
- , Dismiss those that will hinder your assignment – Neh. 2:20;
- , Don't allow discouragers to stay in your camp
  - Those that undermine – 4:11-12
  - Those that minimize – 2:19; 4:1-3
  - Those that intimidate – 4:4-5
  - Those that misrepresent – 6:1-9
- , Be ready to fight for it – 4:13-20
- , Lead by example – 4:23

