

Episode 62

“One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.”

- Luke 18:1

After the week that we've had, I couldn't go any further than this verse. Always pray. Never give up. What a strong, clear call to his disciples.

In praying for our nation this week, I was inspired by a video that went viral of a lady walking down a street full of rubbish in the aftermath of this week's unrest, crying out to God to heal our land. However, in joining with her and thousands of others across our nation, I was reminded of how Nehemiah prayed when he heard that his nation was in great trouble, the walls of Jerusalem had been torn down, and the gates had been destroyed by fire.

It says that when he heard this, he sat down and wept. In fact, for days he mourned, fasted, and prayed. Me? Well, I moaned about our government, laughed at memes, and shook my head in disgust. But Nehemiah sat down and wept, mourning for days, fasting and praying for his people.

And then scripture records his prayer: “I confess that we have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned! We have sinned terribly by not obeying the commands, decrees, and regulations that you gave us through your servant Moses.” Me? Well, I prayed that the baddies would get what's coming for them. I smirked when I saw they weren't wearing masks and would likely get Covid - free with their stolen TV! But Nehemiah repented, confessed his sin, pointed no finger except at himself.

“O Lord, please hear my prayer!” he cried, and God did, moving mightily on his behalf, restoring and rescuing a nation as a result. Me? Well, I took my cue from Nehemiah, repented, got down on my knees, and began to pray - truly pray - for our country.

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