

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Nehemiah 2:1-20

Review

- How do you tend to respond when faced with an on-the-spot question about your faith? Do you tend to bluff your way through, try and change the subject, or reschedule the conversation when you are better prepared?
Why do you think you respond in this way?
- Nehemiah probably wanted things to happen quickly, but he was prepared to wait for God's timing. Have there been times in your own life when you wanted to race on with something, but had to wait for the right time?
- When you read this Bible passage, what particular verse or phrase stands out?

Remind

- Why did Nehemiah's face look sad (v.3)?
- What does Nehemiah specifically ask the king for (v.5, 7-9)?
- What does Nehemiah examine at night when he gets to Jerusalem (v.13-16)?

Respond

- When do we cross the line from proper planning to excessive planning? What factors can we watch out for?
- How can we guard ourselves from disappointment and cynicism when things do not go well in our service for God?
- How can you know when to be diplomatic and when to confront boldly? What guidelines should we follow?
- You could end by memorising Nehemiah 2:4b-5a
"Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, 'If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favour in his sight, let him send me.'"