



Nehemiah 2:9-18 | Walk Before You Talk | September 22<sup>nd</sup> - September 28<sup>th</sup>

**Warm-up:** As Christians, what is the importance in having our yes be yes and our no be no?

- Read **Nehemiah 2:9-11** aloud together. This passage describes Nehemiah's initial inspection of the city walls of Jerusalem.
  - Why does Nehemiah choose to keep this activity and his intentions a secret from the people of Jerusalem?
  - **Verse 10** mentions several people who are disturbed by Nehemiah's plan. Can we expect opposition with our own vision? How have you typically responded to opposition?
  
- Nehemiah takes great efforts to keep his plan under wraps. Read **Luke 14:28-30** and notice what Jesus says about this sort of behavior.
  - What does Jesus say about discussing your vision too hastily?
  - Do you think that holding back on revealing your vision expresses a lack of faith in God's plan? Why or why not?
  
- **Nehemiah 2:18** reads, *"Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king."* Notice here that Nehemiah immediately gives glory to God once he decides to reveal his vision.
  - What are some reasons we fear giving credit and glory to God once our vision starts to materialize?
  - Are you able to identify certain people or groups with whom you are hesitant to praise God for the visions and blessings in your life? How important do you think it is to give God his due praise?
  
- Warren Wiersbe writes, *"[Leaders] must face facts honestly and accept the bad news as well as the good news. Nehemiah saw more at night than the residents saw in the daylight, for he saw the potential as well as the problems."*
  - When approaching your vision do you feel you have a healthy ability to recognize *potential* while still being realistic about the *problems*?
  - Why is it important to be able to recognize both problems and potential? What happens when one is neglected?

**Wrap-up:** Pray into your vision this week. What are you up against in this vision? Seek the Lord's help in completing the difficult work! Pray that He would confirm, clarify or conclude as you investigate your vision further.