

When Burden and Passion Collide!

When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was **fasting and praying** before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:4



Open to See

Have you ever been desperate to find the answer to a problem? Most people have been there a time or two. Maybe it was a job transition that you needed God to speak to you about. Whatever the situation, you had a burden that you needed an answer from God about. This is the place where Nehemiah found himself. He needed God to do for him what he could not do for himself. When his passion and his burden collided, it led him to not only pray, but to fast.

There is something powerful about fasting that can bring clarity and favor to a situation. Fasting is simply giving up something to gain more of God. It may be food, television or social media. Whatever it is, the idea is to clear out things that have your attention and refocus on God. Maybe God will lead you in this time to sacrifice some personal comfort to hear from Him.

As believers, many times we must give up something to grow in our relationship with God. Nehemiah understood this. He was going to put all his passion into hearing from God, so he could make a real difference in people's lives.

Open to Do

Consider giving up something in order to spend some time with God to hear from Him. Plan to spend more time praying. Over the next week take time to sacrifice your regular routine to hear from God about your role in the OPEN journey.

Open to Hear

Jesus, I need to hear from You and be led by You. I will purposefully set aside some time to hear from You and to pray about what You are asking me to do. Jesus, I want to be led by Your spirit, so speak to me today. I love You, Jesus!