



Rock Point Church

Rocky High | 3.1.26

Big Idea: Character is living like God is who He says He is.

Nehemiah 2:1-8 (NLT)

¹ Early the following spring, in the month of Nisan, during the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was serving the king his wine. I had never before appeared sad in his presence. ² So the king asked me, "Why are you looking so sad? You don't look sick to me. You must be deeply troubled."

Then I was terrified, ³ but I replied, "Long live the king! How can I not be sad? For the city where my ancestors are buried is in ruins, and the gates have been destroyed by fire."

⁴ The king asked, "Well, how can I help you?"

With a prayer to the God of heaven, ⁵ I replied, "If it please the king, and if you are pleased with me, your servant, send me to Judah to rebuild the city where my ancestors are buried."

⁶ The king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked, "How long will you be gone? When will you return?" After I told him how long I would be gone, the king agreed to my request.

⁷ I also said to the king, "If it please the king, let me have letters addressed to the governors of the province west of the Euphrates River, instructing them to let me travel safely through their

territories on my way to Judah. ⁸ And please give me a letter addressed to Asaph, the manager of the king's forest, instructing him to give me timber. I will need it to make beams for the gates of the Temple fortress, for the city walls, and for a house for myself." And the king granted these requests, because the gracious hand of God was on me.

Character seeks God when it would be easier to rely on yourself.

Nehemiah 1:1 (NLT)

¹ "These are the memoirs of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In late autumn, in the month of Kislev, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was at the fortress of Susa."

Character moves when it would be easier to stay.

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you most in this week's message, and why?
2. Pastor Rocky said character is living like God is who He says He is. Why do you think it can be difficult to live with that kind of conviction when life feels uncertain?
3. Read Nehemiah 1:4 and 2:1. What do you notice about what happens in Nehemiah during the months before anything changes around him?
4. How have you seen seasons of waiting shape someone's character?

5. Pastor Rocky talked about how strengths can sometimes keep us from depending on God. When do you find it easiest to rely on yourself instead of seeking Him?
6. Read Nehemiah 2:2–5. What stands out to you about Nehemiah’s response in a moment of fear?
7. Pastor Rocky said godly character does not remove fear but moves despite it. What is something people often delay because fear feels safer than obedience?
8. How does where you fix your attention influence your perspective and decisions?
9. Why do you think pretending is so tempting, and what does it cost over time?
10. As you reflect on your life right now, what is one area where God may be inviting you to step forward in faith rather than remain comfortable or silent?