

Navigating

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: 10 X

Text: Nehemiah 2:1-10

The concept of navigation is pretty simple. Anyone can drive a boat or a car, but in order to get somewhere you need to know the final destination and how you are going to get there. In ports all over the world there are thousands of captains on many different size ships who can sail all over the world. All of those captains, when entering a port, must surrender their ship to the port pilot who knows currents, hazards, and channels of that particular city. Without their ability to navigate, the entire trip could end negatively with damage to the ship, port, injured people and loss of cargo. It is one thing to know how to drive, it is quite another to be able to chart the course.

Navigating is important in all facets of life, parenting, marriage, our spiritual walk with God, our churches and in business and our finances. In all of these areas you don't just set out with no end or destination in mind. You need to know where you are going, what God's desire is for your life and what you want all of these things to look like. 10 X people have a plan and a way to get there. The truth is that most people put more thought into a vacation than they do the important things in their lives.

When Nehemiah saw the walls of Jerusalem, like many others, he saw a mighty challenge. For 120 years, thousands of people saw the walls torn down and did nothing. People needed someone to rally them, plan their course of action and take them through the rebuilding process.

What sets good navigators apart from others is that they can clearly see the problem, but they also have a solution. 10 X people see the problem but become solution focused. This is called vision. **Proverbs 29:18 (AMP)** 10 X people have a revelation or a vision of what God desires in any given situation. If there is no God given direction, then everyone will do what seems right to them. God gives those who are 10 X - 20/20 vision. This is not perfect vision, but it is clarity and sharpness.

Three things that set those who are 10 X apart

1. They see further than others see. They are looking ahead, not just what is in front of them. Nehemiah could see a broken wall, but he could already envision a built wall. While others were looking at the rubble that was the result of disobedience and the judgment of God, Nehemiah could see a new wall as God kept His promise to restore. 10 X parents know the promises that God has given them in His word concerning their children. (Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart.) So, they get to training and raising in the ways of God. 10 X Christians see their communities and churches on fire for God and become an integral part of seeing God do a powerful work among them.

2. 10 X sees **more** than others see. Nehemiah knew that the wall could be rebuilt, and he knew what it would **take** to do it. He could see what it would take to rebuild and the steps to proceed.

Before Nehemiah started his journey to rebuild Jerusalem, he asked the king for letters granting him resources and safe passage. The key step that navigators understand is that of **preparation**. This is what you do BEFORE you START. You PLAN AHEAD

Predetermine a course of action.

Lay out your goals.

Adjust your priorities

Notify key people

Allow time for acceptance.

Head into action.

Expect problems

Always point to the successes

Daily review your plan

3. Those who are 10 X see **before** others see. None of Jerusalem's neighbors wanted the Jews to rebuild the city and the walls. Several enemies even **conspired** against Nehemiah and the people. 10 X people recognize trouble and conspiracy before others do and formulate strategies to defend and keep on working.

Because Nehemiah was a 10 X navigator the people only needed fifty-two days to rebuild a city wall that had laid in ruins for 120 years. Nehemiah knew his **purpose**, made his **plans** and took the people through the **process**. 10 X people understand this in all areas of their life and apply it.

10 X people follow the **carpenter's** rule: measure twice, cut once. **Luke 14:28-30**

Before the actual building began, he spent time getting himself and his people ready. This is so basic, but the success of things depends on the process before the execution. This could be a vacation, a hike, building a house, getting kids ready for school, leading a small group or a business endeavor.

- Nehemiah **identified** with the problem and the people. The problem became his problem. He didn't blame others and create separation. He made sure that he knew that God knew and that everyone knew he was all in. --- This is what Jesus did for us. **Nehemiah 1:4-11(NLT)**
- He spent time in **prayer**. He confessed his sin and that of the people. He interceded and asked for God's favor. It is in prayer that we get God's plans, vision, desire and will to do his work no matter how difficult.

- He took time to speak with key **influencers**. **Nehemiah 2:4-9(NLT)** In any undertaking, key people can make or break the whole thing. You need to communicate and have the conversations that need having. Nehemiah spoke with God, the king, governors, and those who would do the work.
- He **assessed** the situation. You need to get the lay of the land. **Nehemiah 2:11-16 (NLT)** Before you talk to anyone make sure you know what you are talking about. Nehemiah did this **quietly** at night, personally surveying what needed done without unwanted interference or advice from others. That would come in time.
- It was only **after** he had assessed the situation that he **shared** what God had put on his heart and what he wanted to do. **Nehemiah 2:17-20 (NLT)** Once he got the right people on board, he could have the conversations that needed to be had with those who opposed it.
- Nehemiah **encouraged** people with the past successes God had already given. **Nehemiah 2:18 (NLT)**
- Once everyone knew what needed done, they began to **work**. Once the planning and preparation is done it is time to get to down to business. Never get so bogged down in the details that you never get to doing. While planning is good navigators do their best work on the journey and they pitch in. **Nehemiah 4:6 (NLT)** People must have a mind to do the work.

10 X people understand that anything worth doing involves others. To help everyone work together there are several things that they do.

- ❖ They keep things **simple**. The goal was to rebuild the wall.
- ❖ He **included** as many people as he could in the process. Many hands make for light work. He organized the people based on relationships. Families and neighbors together.
- ❖ He **delegated** by matching tasks with workers and strengths. **Nehemiah 4:16**
- ❖ Nehemiah **motivated** people by reminding them why they were doing what they were doing. **Nehemiah 4:14**
- ❖ He **prepared** for the worst. Because they had enemies who were opposed to the work and threatened to hurt them. He took them at their word and posted guards around the clock. **Nehemiah 4:19-23**

- ❖ Nehemiah personally made sure that he set the example in making sure that everyone was treated fairly and provided for. **Nehemiah 5:14-19** 10 X people go the extra mile for others. They know that God will meet their every need and will bless them for their faithfulness. 10 X people do extra-ordinary things because they are called by God not motivated by personal gain.

- ❖ Once the work was done, they took time to celebrate. **Nehemiah 8:10**