

Title: How Much Do You Care?

March 31, 2019

Text: Nehemiah 1

Walk-in: Barb and I were recently reading the scripture one evening when these words from Nehemiah seemed to jump out at me: *“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept.”* It gave me pause to think and I sensed the Lord say to me “Look at this - it is a word for City Light”. So as I waited before Him and His Word this is the result. Someone once told me that the opposite of love is not hate, but indifference. Too many times we give up and just don’t care any more. We live life with our arms folded with an “Ask me if I care attitude”. Today I want to challenge you to give thought to just how much you care?

First, care enough to I _____. *Nehemiah 1:1-3*
“...and I questioned them about...”

An inquiry about a people.

An inquiry about a place. *Cf. Jeremiah 15:5*

The Painful Picture:

A small number of people

A struggle for survival

A shadow of the past

Then, care enough to C _____. *Nehemiah 1:4*
“When I heard these things, I sat down and wept.”

Some perceive crying as a **W** _____.

Others recognize it as a **S** _____.
i.e. Jeremiah, Paul, Jesus.

What do you cry for?

Further, care enough to P _____. *Nehemiah 1:5-10*

This is the first of a **D** _____ instances of prayer in the book of Nehemiah.

“There is too much working before men and too little waiting before God”. - Alan Redpath

Who is this God to whom we pray?

He is AWESOME! (vs.5)

He is COVENANT KEEPING (vs. 5)

He is PRAYER HEARING (vs.6.)

He is CONFESSION WELCOMING (vs. 6-9)

He is SUCCESS GRANTING (vs.11)

Finally, care enough to C _____. *Nehemiah 1:11*

“Prayer is not getting man’s will done in heaven, but God’s will done on earth”.

God calls us to **A** _____.

Eph 3:20

Wrap-up: The Bible is filled with stories of people who chose to care. Abraham cared and rescued Lot from Sodom. Moses cared and rescued the people of Israel from Egypt. David cared and brought the nation and the kingdom back to the Lord. Esther cared and risked her life to save her nation from genocide. Paul cared and took the Gospel to an empire. Jesus cared and died on the cross for a lost world. Will you care enough - to inquire, to cry, to pray, to commit - to this ministry at City Light to impact our world

for Christ? May it be so!