

# Fighting Brokenness on Our Knees – Study Guide

## Nehemiah 1

We all face brokenness in our world on a day to day basis. Nehemiah faced the brokenness of his people (Nehemiah 1:3)

### 1. What is one area of brokenness you see in your every day?

We know that the devil is devious and will do whatever he can to try and stop us as God people being agents of restoration in our community. Three key tactics he uses are:

- Apathy
- Anger
- Arrogance

### 2. Which of these tactics is Satan most likely to try against you?

We see that Nehemiah responded to the brokenness in such a way that he defended against each of these tactics:

- Apathy: he made it personal. He let it in and then let it out to God (Nehemiah 1:4)
- Anger: he repented of his own brokenness. As New Testament Christians that should lead us to fall into grace rather than anger (Nehemiah 1:6)
- Arrogance: he asked God for help (Nehemiah 1:11)

### 3. When you think about how the Devil might be targeting you how can you use these defences?

In all his responses Nehemiah prayed. He prayed intentional and intercessory prayer. He was metaphorically, if not also physically, fighting brokenness on his knees:

- “When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, **fasted**, and **prayed** to the God of heaven.” (Nehemiah 1:4)
- “Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel.” (Nehemiah 1:6)
- “O Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honouring you” (Nehemiah 1:11)

### 4. How can you be committing to pray for the area of brokenness in your world?

### 5. Take some time now to pray as a small group about the areas of brokenness you are each engaging with.