

One Small Step - Week 1

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-4

Pray that God opens our eyes to the steps that we each need to be taking with Jesus.

This week, we talked about small steps that led to big things;

- Every step at NASA over 8+ years that led to humans on the moon
- A star quarterback's first step onto a high school practice field
- A basement/garage passion project that led to a huge company

What was a small step that you took that led you somewhere you didn't expect?

Dallas described Nehemiah as a guy who cared about what was going on in Jerusalem, but hadn't yet taken a step towards doing something about it.

Read Nehemiah 1:1-4 together.

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, **2** that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. **3** And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire." **4** As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Have you ever found yourself on the sidelines, knowing something needed to be done but not sure what to do?

Have you felt that way (like a spectator) in the church?

Why do you think that so many Jesus followers live like consumers rather than contributors?

In verse 4, Nehemiah makes a shift from apathy to passion. This is the key to our conversation this week - moving from **apathy to passion** - and living out that passion through our actions.

We know that God calls us to good works that He established long before we were born. And if He calls us to them, we know that He has given us the capacity, through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us, to accomplish the task that He has called us to.

But figuring out that task can be difficult. That's why finding our passion is so important. Before we take those actions through small steps, we have to be passionate about something. We have to care about something.

**What's something that you care about or have passion for?
Locally? Globally?**

What's one step you can take towards doing something with that passion? Let's brainstorm together.

Even after finding our passion, it can be difficult to know where to start. And if that passion doesn't move you to action, you'll stay on the sidelines until that passion fizzles. You need a plan of action. That's why we have 6 big categories of Next Steps that we encourage at Capital West. These are some great places to start, and because we all have Next Steps to take, you'll find yourself taking these Next Steps over and over for the rest of your life.

What are the Next Steps that we encourage the most at Capital West?

ACCEPT JESUS

- Jesus was immersed, the earliest church was immersed, and He commanded His disciples to make other disciples and to immerse them.

B.L.E.S.S. OTHERS

- Disciples make disciples. Begin with prayer. Listen. Eat. Serve. Share your story.

CHEERFULLY GIVE

- If you are passionate about our calling, put resources toward it.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

- This week, we talked specifically about Bible reading.

ENGAGE IN SERVICE

- We all have a mission field to find lost people, and we all have a ministry calling that serves the body.

FIND COMMUNITY

- There are tons of Life Groups and several Bible Fellowship classes to choose from.

What one step have you decided to take this week?

Did you take that step after service? Or do you still need to make a plan of action?

How can we keep each other accountable with our Next Steps?

Close in prayer.