

# "Living the story you want your life to tell" *Finding the WHY!*

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. **Eph. 2:10 NLT** 

The key to a great story is *INTENTIONAL LIVING.* 

If *intentional living* is the *key* to a great story, then the *key to intentional living* is finding my <u>*Why.*</u>

#### FINDING MY WHY

Case study - Nehemiah

First step for anyone who believes in God...Bring value to <u>God</u> and bring value to <u>Others</u>.

... "O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands, listen to my prayer! Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel... **Nehemiah 1:5-6 NLT** 

Next step, find my Personal Why.

## HOW TO DISCOVER MY PERSONAL WHY (4 KEY QUESTIONS)

 Who do I really want to <u>LIVE</u> for? (Do I really want to make a difference in <u>somebody</u> else's life, or is it really just about me?) ...Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down and the gates have been destroyed by fire. When I heard this, I sat down and wept... I confess we have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned! **Neh. 1:3-6 NLT** 

...Send me to Judah...Nehemiah 2:5 NLT

## 2. What do I CRY about?

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 NLT

#### 3. What makes me SING?

Nehemiah said... So they began the good work. Neh. 2:17-18 NLT

4. What do I <u>DREAM</u> about? (Give into the "what if" and make it a "why not")

But now I said to them, "You know very well what trouble we are in. Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire. Let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and end this disgrace!" Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, "Yes, let's rebuild the wall!" So they began the good work. Nehemiah 2:17-18 NLT

Going deeper on your own. Get a piece of paper and write down three things you dream about for your life. Now write down what it would look like if one, two or all three of those dreams came true? Imagine that they did and someone wrote about it in a book. What would the title be? Do you think people would want to read it? Ok, let's try this another way, if some one were to write a biography about your life, what would you want it to say? Pastor Jay talked about discovering your why for living. Have you discovered your why? If not, answer the four questions he challenged us to answer and then write what you dream it would look like to live for your why? Come next week and learn how to get started.