



# DIVINE GUIDANCE

## HOW TO GET GOD'S DIVINE DIRECTION WHEN ENCOUNTERING UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES AND SITUATIONS

Lessons from Nehemiah

### 1. First PRAY, then PRAY and then PRAY.

*When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, **for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed** to the God of heaven. Then I said, "O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of un-failing 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 1:4-6 (NLT)***

### 2. Look at the BIG PICTURE. (*Look back, then look forward*)

*Please remember what you told your servant Moses: "If you are unfaithful to me, I will scatter you among the nations. But if you return to me and obey my commands and live by them, then even if you are exiled to the ends of the earth, I will bring you back to the place I have chosen for my name to be honored." **Nehemiah 1:8-9 (NLT)***

*...I replied, "If it please the king, and if you are pleased with me, your servant, send me to Judah to rebuild the city where my ancestors are buried." **Nehemiah 2:4-5 (NLT)***

### 3. Check it out against what HE has already said. (God's Word)

*But if you return to me and obey my commands and live by them, then even if you are exiled to the ends of the earth, I will bring you back to the place I have chosen for my name to be honored. Neh. 1:9 (NLT)*

#### **4. Seek out, ask, and listen to other CHRIST-FOLLOWERS.**

*Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah... Nehemiah 1:2 (NLT)*

*So I arrived in Jerusalem. Three days later, I slipped out during the night, taking only a few others with me. I had not told anyone about the plans God had put in my heart for Jerusalem... Neh. 2:11-12 (NLT)*

#### **5. Look at the circumstances with the DESTINATION in mind. (What's the eternal value?)**

*...I will bring you back to the place I have chosen for MY name to be honored. Nehemiah 1:9 (NLT)*

#### **6. One caution, not all circumstances are from God.**

*I realized that God had not spoken to him, but that he had uttered this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. They were hoping to intimidate me and make me SIN... Neh. 6:12-13 (NLT)*

#### **7. If God is in the circumstances, then God will be SEEN in the circumstances.**

*So on October 2 the wall was finished—just fifty-two days after we had begun. When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God. Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NLT)*

Going deeper on your own. This week read the book of Nehemiah. If you are facing an unforeseen circumstance or situation, take the following steps. 1. Commit to pray about it every day this week. 2. Look at how the situation has occurred and ask God what He wants you to do about it. 3. Seek out two Christ-followers and tell them about what you are facing. Ask them their view on the situation, and discuss what you feel God is telling you to do. 4. Upon discovering what you believe He wants you to do, take the first step. Write me at [Jay@centerpointchurch.com](mailto:Jay@centerpointchurch.com) and tell me your story.