

## **actIon [2]**

### I act on...Courage

Series Theme:

“So we built the wall...for the people had a mind to work.” (Nehemiah 4:6)

Last Week: Nehemiah 1 (I act on...Needs)

-The importance of **action** (good works)

- ❖ it's what we were created for
- ❖ it's what makes our faith visible
- ❖ it brings real help to those in need
- ❖ it communicates the love of God
- ❖ it's a part of our own growth and brings joy and blessing to us
- ❖ it can have a far greater impact than we realize
- ❖ one day we will be commended for it

-A trail to follow (Nehemiah)

-See a need

-respond

-with prayer

-and action

Today:

In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before; <sup>2</sup> so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart." I was very much afraid, <sup>3</sup> but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" <sup>4</sup> The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, <sup>5</sup> and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my fathers are buried so that I can rebuild it." ... <sup>10</sup> When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites... <sup>19</sup> ...they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?" <sup>20</sup> I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it." Nehemiah 2:1-5,10,19-20

Theme: When you see a need, respond with prayer, courage and action.

Nehemiah's profile of courage:

-Courage is facing up rather than ducking out

-Courage is venturing out rather than holding back

-Courage comes from leaning on rather conjuring up

Making It Personal

Scripture Journey

◇	M	Aug-29	Lu8:26-56	135:13-21
◇	Tu	Aug-30	Lu9:1-27	Ps 136
◇	W	Aug-31	Lu9:28-62	Ps 137
◇	Th	Sep-1	Luke 10	Ps 138
◇	F	Sep-2	Lu11:1-28	Ps139:1-10
◇	Sa	Sep-3	Lu11:29-54	139:11-24
	Su	Sep-4	<i>off or catch up</i>	