

Introduction: Why dreams die

Why is it that so many people **intend** to do so much, yet usually accomplish so little?

The Answer: _____!

AND

Why is it that others who carefully prepare to do even a little, accomplish so much?

Prerequisite #4: A _____

The question:

What must happen to our **Dislocated Hearts, Broken Spirits, and Radical Faiths** to turn our God-given dreams into reality?

1. It must begin with a _____:

Chapter 1	Chapter 2
Problem	Solution
Susa	Jerusalem
Prayer	Answer
The Promise	The Provision
A Purpose	A Program
An Individual	A Group
Perceptual	Practical
The Heart	The Head

2. Where God's agenda is championed, God's resources are

_____:

*⁵ ... 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." ⁶Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time. ⁷I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? ⁸And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And **because the gracious hand of my God was upon me, the king granted my requests.** ⁹So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.*

Nehemiah 2:5-9

3. Your strategic plan must be "birthed" in _____:

*¹¹I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days ¹²I set out during the night with a few men. I had **not told anyone** what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. ¹³By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, **examining the walls** of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; ¹⁵so I went up the valley by night, **examining the wall**. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. ¹⁶The officials **did not know** where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet **I had said nothing** to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.*

Nehemiah 2:11-16

- 3 keys to “**birthing**” your strategic plan:

1. Silence: To _____
2. Secrecy: To _____
3. Solitude: To _____

4. Your strategic plan **must be launched** in _____:

*¹⁷Then I said to them, "You see the bad situation we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates burned by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem that we may no longer be a reproach." ¹⁸And I told them how the hand of my God had been favorable to me, and also about the king's words which he had spoken to me. Then they said, "**Let us arise and build.**" So they put their hands to the good [work].*

Nehemiah 2:17-18

- 7 steps to launching a strategic plan:

1. Clearly define the _____.
2. Identify with the _____.
3. Propose a “we” _____.
4. Give a clear, strong _____.
5. Motivate at the deepest _____.
6. Help others see God’s _____ in your vision.
7. Explain specifically how everyone can _____ in the project.

Application/Questions:

1. What is the difference between “good intentions” and a specific “plan of action?”
Why is this so important?
2. Do you have a strategic plan for your **spiritual growth**? **Marriage**? **Children**?
Reaching your **neighbors and friends**? **Ministry** in your church?
3. What would God have you specifically do to move from “good intentions” to a strategic plan in one of the above areas? Who will help you develop this?