

Fall 2021

BOBBY & KRYSTA McCOY

SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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PRAYER REQUESTS

- Health and protection for Bobby's traveling to Kenya in October for two weeks for work, and for Krysta and Timothy as they will be at home during Bobby's travels.
- Continued partnerships between Deaf organizations which will further advance God's Kingdom together. This includes a meeting with Deaf Missions' translation team in December about some topics such as setting up a translation committee.

Lessons from **Nehemiah**



Recently, a good partner organization of DOOR, Deaf Missions, hosted a Deaf Christian Leaders Conference. We were honored to attend this conference and witness Deaf Missions' Jubilee (50th year anniversary). **It was a beautiful time for the Deaf to gather and experience the fruit of God's faithfulness and Deaf Missions' labors.**



The major theme of the conference was the book of Nehemiah. **The book of Nehemiah was a book I didn't often hear about in church when I was growing up and it's probably the same for most of you.** I was just blown away by how much we can learn from Nehemiah and how we can apply it to our relationship with God, such as the praying nature of Nehemiah, the plans Nehemiah had, and community confession.

- **Prayer (Nehemiah 1)**
It is important to remember that **Nehemiah was not born in Israel, but was born and grew up in exile.** The only taste of Israel he was able to experience was through the words of those who lived in Israel before the exile. Nehemiah showed an amazing amount of love in his prayers for his people and the land he had never seen. **How can we ask God for the heart to do what He wants us to do and take that to action just as Nehemiah did?**
- **Planning (Nehemiah 2)**
Nehemiah had a heart for his people, especially for the land that he personally had not touched in his entire life. When the king asked Nehemiah about his unrest, Nehemiah's response evidently showed that he had a plan ready before responding to the king.

This goes back to the point of prayer, as Nehemiah was praying, he was planning with God, asking him for guidance. **How can our life be like Nehemiah, a model of prayer and planning fully dependent on God?**

- **Community Confession (Nehemiah 9)**

In this chapter, the community gathered together and confessed their sins and their ancestors' sins. Personally, I feel like this is something I don't practice in my life. However, I do appreciate this insight as it shows us the importance of how we, as God's people, should view ourselves as together in God's Kingdom, not as individuals. **What sins in our community, or that our ancestors had done, do we need to acknowledge and confess?**

- **Challenging Ourselves**

From reading about the life and leadership of Nehemiah, how can we challenge ourselves to grow in our faith? Through Nehemiah's prayer life, I was challenged by his love for God and His people. **How can I show God my love for Him and the people around me in my prayers?**

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It is easy for me to plan my life so I feel in control but how does that show God's control over my life? I need to bring my plans to Him and allow Him to tell me if the plans are His will or not. We are an instrumental part of His Kingdom!

Lastly, I was challenged by how God's Kingdom is not found in individuals, but in community, so if there is anything that is holding the community back from advancing God's Kingdom, we need to search for the barrier that holds us back and bring it to Him. I was only able to cover three interesting aspects from the life and leadership of Nehemiah. **What are other aspects that you could learn from Nehemiah which may challenge your relationship with God?**

TIMOTHY'S COLUMN

Timothy is growing fast! Timothy has started to walk on his own a little, and loves to explore the world around him. He loves having people around him, preferring to be with people any chance he gets. **This reminds us of how God has created us to thrive in community.** We are excited to celebrate his first birthday soon on November 26th!



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ABOUT DOOR

DOOR International's mission is to bring God's Word and reproducing Christian fellowships to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Christian mission organization.

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