

## GBC Discipleship RESOURCE



# Lives changed by Jesus.

Week 00 | **Renovation: Rebuilding for Purpose (Nehemiah 2:11-18)**

*For a brief overview of why (and how) to engage in each of these practices, you can read the Guideline For Growing on our website.*

<https://www.gymeabaptist.org.au/growing/pages/guideline-for-growing>

## OVERVIEW

On Sunday (December 5) we launched our theme for 2022, "Renovation: Rebuilding for Purpose." The idea is simple; when we are renovating a home we do so on the basis of our changing needs – an extra bedroom, another living space, a more efficient use of space, and so on. As we seek to renovate our community of faith after two years of disruption we must ask the same questions. In other words, what is our purpose as a community of faith and what needs to change (and remain the same) in order for us to achieve our purpose together.

This will be the final discipleship menu for 2021. We will return to them in 2022 with our first series in the new term. This week will also be the final Big III

(our mid-week podcast reflecting on three questions raised by the sermon) for the year, though we'll be restarting that in January. The sermon podcasts will, however, continue each week.

## PASSAGES TO MEDITATE ON

Nehemiah 2:11-18 was the text for the message and you may wish to read Nehemiah 1:1-2:10 to get the context.

Other texts that were referred to include Ezra 4:6-23 and Exodus 19:1-6.

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

1. Nehemiah's sense of what God has put on his heart to do for Jerusalem began with an emotional response to what had happened to the city and seeing the gracious hand of God on him. Consider a time when you have heard the invitation of God through a combination of your heart being stirred and doors opening.
2. The renovation of Jerusalem began with a good, hard look at the reality of the situation. Nehemiah's night-time inspection would have given him a clear understanding of what they faced. Where might renovation need to begin in your life? In our life together as a community of faith.
3. Our purpose as a community of faith is to join with God in his mission to restore the world in Jesus through the enabling presence of the Holy Spirit. To what degree does this purpose shape your own discipleship? To what degree do you experience this purpose being played out in our community of faith.

# PRAYER THEME

Pray that we, as individuals and a community of faith, might see the gracious hand of God; have the courage to see what needs to be renovated around our purpose; and have the courage to do it.