

God's Calling & Vision Series...

Oct 24: If God is calling us to do something important in SJ, how do we begin?

Oct 31: Why should I care about what God is calling me to do?

Nov 7: How do we keep on “doing” church when things are not going great?

Nov 14: How can we keep on being passionate?

Nov 21: Remaining thankful when we don't feel it

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GOD'S VISION
OUR FUTURE

St. James
Presbyterian Church



**GOD'S VISION,
OUR VISION**

**WITHOUT VISION
PEOPLE PERISH**

Proverbs 29:18

Jesus

Vision of the future for SJPC

**A revitalized
St. James Presbyterian Church whose
leadership and congregation are
Gospel-grounded,
missionally active,
and growing.**

***If God is calling us
to do something important
through St. James,
how do we begin?***



Nehemiah 1:1-10, NLT

1 These are the memoirs (words) of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah.

In late autumn, in the month of Kislev, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was at the fortress of Susa.

2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah. I asked them about the Jews who had returned there from captivity and about how things were going in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 1:1-10, NLT

3 They said to me, “Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.”

4 When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.

5 Then I said, “O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands,

Nehemiah 1:1-10, NLT

6 listen to my prayer! Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel. I confess that we have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family and I have sinned!

7 We have sinned terribly by not obeying the commands, decrees, and regulations that you gave us through your servant Moses.”

8 “Please remember what you told your servant Moses: ‘If you are unfaithful to me, I will scatter you among the nations.

Nehemiah 1:1-10, NLT

9 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.'

10 "The people you rescued by your great power and strong hand are your servants.

11 O Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honoring you. Please grant me success today by making the king favorable to me. Put it into his heart to be kind to me." In those days I was the king's cup-bearer.

The Word of the Lord + Thanks be to God.

How did Nehemiah/rebuilding begin?

Cared, cried, confessed, asked God's help

Used his smarts, connections, resources

Inspected/analyzed the walls, planned

Explained the trouble/disgrace, assured them of God's call, grace, and provisions

Assured of God's help, people committed

Nehemiah 2:17-18, NIV

17 Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.”

18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me.

They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.

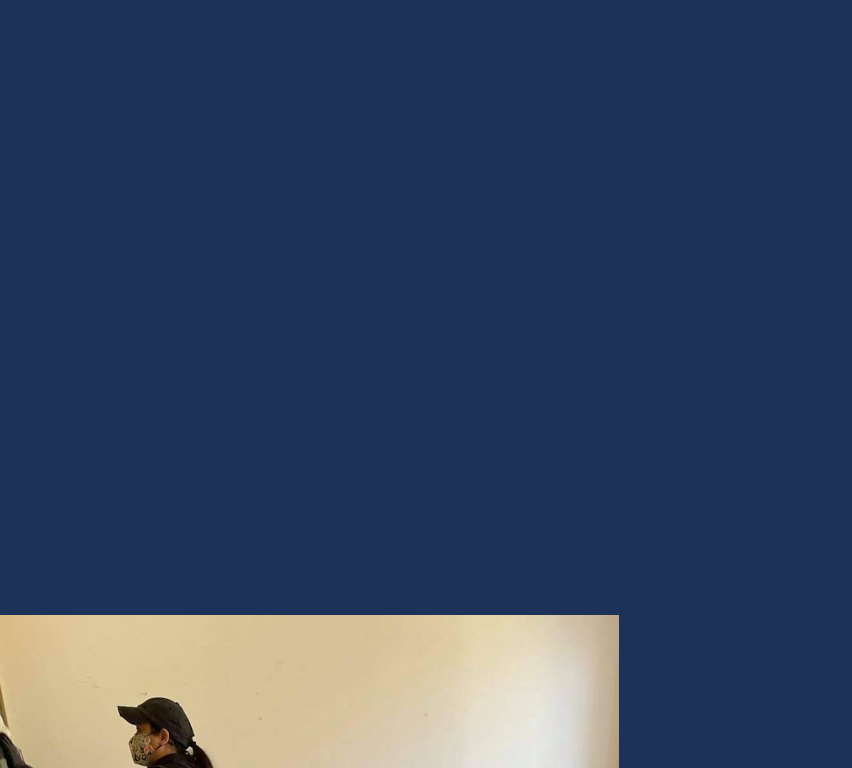
Ask yourself...

Why should St. James matter to me?

I already have more than enough cares in my life. Why add more?

Is God really calling me to help rebuild St. James? What if I refuse?

If I take part in God's calling to rebuild St. James, what's in it for me and my family?



Today, St. James needs people to...

Tech for our live/recorded worship video

Start planning community outreach activities (*Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year*)

Play piano, guitar, etc.

Invite, organize and motivate the men!

Invite, invite, invite!

When we see St. James becoming the church God calls us to be and to do ...

- **Always remember this: you and your family matter to God. God loves you!**
- **Little by little, we will see God's miracles in our lives.**
- **God's purpose it to show His grace, mercy, and power through you and the church.**