

Friday

Another character quality we talked about last weekend was persistence. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-18. What is the key to Paul's persistence?

Think about the character quality you'd like to develop (see Thursday's devotion). Write down three ways you'd like to see that quality expressed in your life:

What are two ways you could put that character quality into action in the next week? (Maybe meet with someone whose life exemplifies that quality for ideas, find someone to help you be accountable, write a reminder to yourself everyday... be creative!)

Thank God today for His mercy and love. Talk to Him about the character quality you want to develop. Ask God to work in you, make any heart changes He needs to and grow you to be more like Him.

Saturday

Please pray for the church services this weekend. Pray that as we enter into the Easter season that our church will be a place of celebration and that lives will be changed. Pray that God will give you the courage to invite people to the Easter services — and that they'll come!

Prayer Updates

Hospitalized & surgeries this past week...

Aleeta Zapata - testing	Anna Floden — testing
Bobbette Moore — returned to ICU	Charles Whitney — RCU
Charlie Comstock — moving to RCU	Chris Weeks — knee surgery, 3/13
Christine Garbo — suffering complications from critical injuries	
David Lawrence — broken hip	Lisa Rojas — surgery
Shirley Ellis — heart valve infection	Susan Doxtater — moving to RCU

Recent hospitalizations/surgeries: Betty Dodson, Duard Teixeira, Ethan Winans, Ilo McCoy, Patti Wilbur, Tom Hudson, Verna Hernandez

Hospice care: Adrienne Bresnahan-Gomes

Home with the Lord

Please remember the family of Farley Shane, whose mother went to spend eternity with Jesus on February 29. He is grateful that he had the opportunity to affirm her newfound faith in Jesus, and says God's faithfulness and comfort were very evident during this last week.

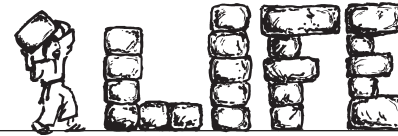
Heartfelt prayer is extended to Randy Shuffler in the loss of his dear wife, **Marcie Murphy**, after a long illness with cancer. Also remember Marcie's mother, Leona Sweeney and son, Michael Murphy.

Please pray for the family of Lee Hanson, whose mother **Dixie Hanson** went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, March 2nd.

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center. **Subscribe to the Prayer Update:** www.tlc.org/profiles

REBUILDING MY



PART 8: A Life of Lasting Impact

March 8 & 9, 2008 • René Schlaepfer

Nehemiah Review

How Do I Live a Life of Lasting Impact?

1. The Power of a _____

"I am carrying on a **great project**..." *Nehemiah 6:3b*

How do I develop a passionate purpose?

CH. 1 Nehemiah **hears... feels... prays... meets the need**

"Passion is waking up in the morning, wherever you are, however old or young and bounding out of bed because you know there's something out there that you love to do, that you believe in, that you're called to, something that's bigger than you are and you can hardly wait to get at it. It's something you'd rather be doing more than anything else in the whole world. You invest in it because that cause means more to you than money. And you know it's something that makes the world a better place for other people and not just yourself.

"And when you look at the people who've made the greatest impact, they were the most passionate people. They were not the smartest people, the wealthiest people, the best-educated people, the most beautiful people. They were people of passion. Passionate people are world changers. Think of Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King, Jr., Billy Graham, Paul, David — passionate people who said, 'There's a burning in me that really matters. I don't want to be involved in the trivia of life. I want what counts and I'm not going to waste my life on inferior things.'" — *Whit Hobbs*

2. The Power of _____

"When I heard these things, I sat down and **wept**..." *Nehemiah 1:4a*

5:2-6 Nehemiah defends the cause of the poor

5:17-18 He supports others with daily meals

8:10 He tells everyone to give to the poor when they party!

3. The Power of _____

"...the **joy** of the LORD is your strength." *Nehemiah 8:10c*

2:1 Nehemiah had never been sad before the king

5:17-18 Hosts nightly dinner party

12:27-47 Begins great celebration!

"And on that day they offered great sacrifices, **rejoicing** because God had given them great **joy**. The women and children also **rejoiced**. The sound of **rejoicing** in Jerusalem could be heard far away." *Nehemiah 12:43*

4. The Power of _____

“Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem...” *Nehemiah 2:17b*

When giving credit for building in chapter 3, his own name is absent!

5. The Power of _____

Obstacles Nehemiah overcame:

CRITICISM	Nehemiah 4:1
FATIGUE	Nehemiah 4:10
FRUSTRATION	Nehemiah 4:10
FEAR	Nehemiah 4:11
DIVISION	Nehemiah 5:1-5
DISTRACTIONS	Nehemiah 6:1-4
SLANDER	Nehemiah 6:5-8
DANGER	Nehemiah 6:10-14
DIFFICULT PEOPLE	Nehemiah 13

D _____

“So we **continued** to work...” *Nehemiah 4:21*

Self-Evaluation

- Which of these character qualities are strongest in my life?
- Which of these character qualities are weakest in my life?
- Which of these character qualities would I like to develop the most in my life?
- What could I do this week to practice demonstrating this character quality?

I pray that the next 12 months will be a year of God developing these traits in me! As God grants the strength, I will be a person of passionate purpose, compassion, joy, teamwork, and persistence so that I can contribute to what God is building at Twin Lakes Church!

**Join us for lunch and Vision Day
after the 10:45 service this weekend!**

Monday

Scan the book of Nehemiah this morning. How would you summarize the book? As you think back over this series, what is one lesson that stands out to you?

What is your passionate purpose in life? If you don't think you have one yet, do you have any clues about the kinds of ministry that you enjoy?

Thank God for the impact this study has had on your life. Ask Him to help you find your passionate purpose in life!

Tuesday

One of the character qualities Nehemiah had was compassion. Read 1 John 3:16-20. What does this say about compassion?

Look back over your message notes. Which of the character qualities (passionate purpose, compassion, joy, teamwork or persistence) are strongest in your life?

Is that something that's always been a strength?

How has God used that strength to encourage others? How has He used it to grow you?

Thank God today that He has uniquely gifted you. Pray that the strengths He's given you will be a blessing to those around you and a reason for you to give thanks to Him.

Wednesday

One of the character qualities Nehemiah had was joy. Read Romans 5:1-11. What is the source of Paul's joy? What's your level of joy right now?

As you look at the character qualities we saw in Nehemiah, which would you say is the weakest in your life? Why do you think you struggle most with that particular quality?

How do you think struggling with that has impacted your life and relationships?

Thank God today that He wants to help you grow in character. Talk to God about this character quality that you struggle with. Ask Him to help you make incremental progress.

Thursday

An important character quality you see in Nehemiah is teamwork. Read Acts 2:32-37. What was the impact of the early church's teamwork?

Write down which of these character qualities you'd like most to see developed in you: _____

Write down the name of someone you know whose life embodies this quality.

How would developing this character quality impact your life?

Talk to God about this character quality. Pray that God will help you in this way and use you as a beacon of hope to those you encounter today.



Memory Verse

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” *Galatians 5:22-23*