

## NEXT LEVEL LIVING

Next Level Goals

Pastor Steve Reynolds

### INTRODUCTION

**A.** Are you ready to take your life to the Next Level in this new year? The challenge is that wishing and wanting it will not make it happen. Action is required. The good news is you do not have to do it alone. God will help you to fulfill the actions that are necessary to elevate your life to your new next level.

*“Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert.”* Isaiah 43:19

**B.** There are three vital questions you must answer to advance to the next level:

1. What level am I now?
2. What is my next level?
3. What actions must I do to get to the next level?

**C.** This series will equip you with the six core actions that are necessary to go to the next level in any area of your life. The messages include:

Jan 9	Next Level Faith
TODAY	Next Level Goals
Jan 23	Next Level Health
Jan 30	Next Level Prayer
Feb 6	Next Level Discipline
Feb 13	Next Level Teamwork

Come and hear these messages and discover what actions are needed to take your life to the next level!

**D.** **TEXT:** Nehemiah 2:1-20

**B.** Establish a problem plan.

*“Furthermore I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of the region beyond the River, that they must permit me to pass through till I come to Judah,”*

Nehemiah 2:7

**C.** Establish a resources plan.

*“and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king’s forest, that he must give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which pertains to the temple, for the city wall, and for the house that I will occupy.”*  
*And the king granted them to me according to the good hand of my God upon me.”* Nehemiah 2:8

**D.** Establish a game plan.

*“11 So I came to Jerusalem and was there three days.  
12 Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem; nor was there any animal with me, except the one on which I rode.”*

Nehemiah 2:11-12

### IV. FORM YOUR TEAM

**A.** Define reality with your team.

*“Then I said to them, “You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire....“* Nehemiah 2:17a

**B.** Ask for help from your team.

*17 ...Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach.”*  
*18 And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king’s words that he had spoken to me. So they said, “Let us rise up and build.” Then they set their hands to this good work.”* Nehemiah 2:17b-18

### TAKE ACTION AND DO NEXT LEVEL GOALS

Goals are a statement of faith in God and His will for your life.

## HOW TO TAKE YOUR GOALS TO THE NEXT LEVEL

### I. PRAY TO YOUR GOD

#### A. Pray before you do anything else.

*“3 And they said to me, “The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire.”*

*4 So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.”*

Nehemiah 1:3-4

#### B. Pray about two areas:

- Pray about what God wants you to be.

*“6 please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You. Both my father’s house and I have sinned.*

Nehemiah 1:6

- Pray about what God wants you to do.

*11 O Lord, I pray, please let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant, and to the prayer of Your servants who desire to fear Your name; and let Your servant prosper this day, I pray, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.”*

Nehemiah 1:11

## II. OVERCOME YOUR FEAR

### A. Overcome fear of rejection.

*“2 Therefore the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart.” So I became dreadfully afraid,*

*3 and said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers’ tombs, lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire?”*

*4 Then the king said to me, “What do you request?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.*

*5 And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ tombs, that I may rebuild it.”*

Nehemiah 2:2-5

### B. Overcome fear of opposition.

*“19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they laughed at us and despised us, and said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?”*

*20 So I answered them, and said to them, “The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem.”*

Nehemiah 2:19-20

## III. DEVELOP YOUR PLAN

### A. Establish a timing plan.

*“Then the king said to me (the queen also sitting beside him), “How long will your journey be? And when will you return?” So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.”*

Nehemiah 2:6