



'Prayer Rises'

1. Has there been anything that touched your heart or disturbed when you have been away from home?

or

How much should Christians be involved in political issues. What form should that involvement take?

2. Read Nehemiah 1. What triggered Nehemiah's concern for those who had returned to Jerusalem after having been in exile? Why were the people in trouble? What circumstances of your fellow believers cause you real concern?
3. What was Nehemiah's first response when faced with a seemingly hopeless predicament?
4. What does Nehemiah's prayer reveal about his view of himself and of God?
5. After 3 months of praying, Nehemiah realised that God wanted to use him as part of the answer to his prayer. How do you think prayer prepared Nehemiah to lead his people in the rebuilding project?
6. Why would Nehemiah's position of authority be an asset in improving the situation?
7. If God knows all of our fears, desires, and needs, why does he want us to pray about them?
8. Based on this passage, what are some of the elements of effective prayer? Which of these elements do you feel is often missing in your prayers?
9. In what ways can prayer change a person's attitude towards life's difficulties?
10. In what ways does God bless those who continually turn to him in prayer? Can you recall an answer to prayer which was beyond what you had asked or even thought?