Day 12

Our Faith Journey

⁵I said to the king, "If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it." ⁶ Then the king said to me, the queen sitting beside him, "How long will your journey be, and when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me, and I gave him a definite time.

Nehemiah 2:5-6 (NASB)

Observation

The king may not have understood Nehemiah's faith, but he did understand one thing. Life is a journey, and so is faith. While there can be moments of great faith, faith does not grow in a moment. Faith grows during the journey that God calls you to. Each day and each moment presents itself as an opportunity to exercise your faith. Faith is like a muscle; it must be used, stretched and challenged in order to grow stronger. That is what the Open: Next Chapter journey is about.

We want your faith to grow stronger daily on this journey. Just as Nehemiah was going to experience many obstacles and challenges along the way, so will you. There will be moments that you don't want to engage the journey. Stay the course, just as Nehemiah did, and watch your faith grow stronger and stronger. We are on a faith journey together, and this journey is going to stretch and grow us more than we can imagine.

Do you see faith as a journey? There will be moments in the journey that

Application

make you want to quit or change direction. Determine in your heart today that you are going to commit to this faith journey. When you doubt or feel discouraged, take time to reflect and realize that God is strengthening and stretching your faith. Ask someone you know to be a partner with you in prayer as you face the challenge of doubt or discouragement. Write their names down below. Don't give up, and keep living this journey of faith.