

Speak It

¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the bad situation we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates burned by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach."

Nehemiah 2:17 (NASB)

Observation

Have you ever wanted to share a dream, but were afraid that people would think you were crazy? Many of us feel that way. We feel like God is asking us to do something great, but we are afraid to talk about it. There is something intimidating when talking about what God is asking you to do by faith. When you speak it out, it begins to become real to you. It is one thing to think it, and it is another to speak it out.

Nehemiah must have felt the same way. He has received all that he needs to get the job done, but now it is time to start speaking it out and telling the people the plan. This must have been a scary time for Nehemiah. Thoughts of self-doubt must have been swarming through his head, but he chose to speak out the dream God had placed in his heart.

At some point in this faith journey, you will need to do the same. There will come a time when you need to speak out what God is telling you in prayer and with the right group of people. That group may be your family or people in your prayer group or Bible Study group. Make sure you share with people who will build up your faith, not tear it down. Tell them the dreams God has given you. Once you have shared it, you claim it as a part of your responsibility and you begin working toward it in earnest. Also, you never know how much your words could encourage someone else in their faith journey.

Application

During your prayer time, speak out loud the things God has placed in your heart. Choose a family member or close friend at church to tell what God has put on your heart about serving God and committing to the Open: Next Chapter journey. Also, seek out others that you can give encouragement to. Write their names below and include them in your prayers.