

# ***The Nehemiah Response***

(Nelson and Pam Roth, PCC)

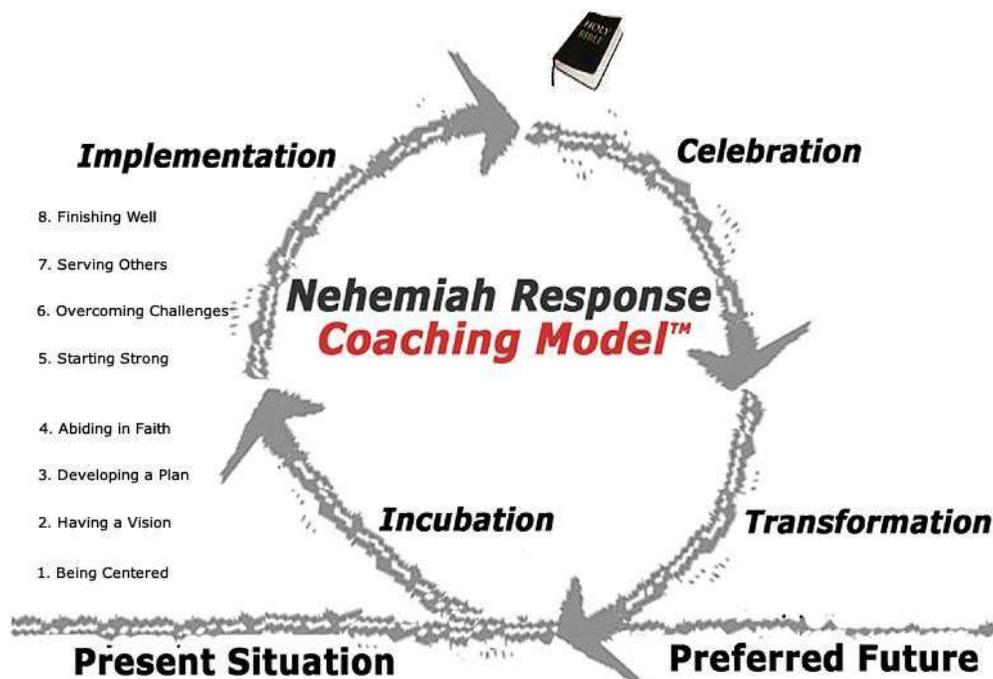
A biblical process for transformation using the metaphor of a circle moving forward along a line from present situation to the preferred future. This model captures the responses of Nehemiah and helps to develop a custom solution to get from where you are (present situation) to where you want to go (preferred future). This model provides a reproducible and repeatable strategic framework for positive change in life and ministry. Application of discoveries made through this process will give traction to move forward.

## ***Preferred Future***

- Big picture, what would be your goal?
- What would you like to focus on today?
- When we are done today, what would you like to be able to take away?

## ***Present Situation***

- How would you describe your current reality?
- What is happening?
- What's really important?
- What is working, what's not working?



## **Incubation**

*Nehemiah 1:3-4, ... The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire. When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. **For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.***

- What are some ideas you can put in place?
  - What changes will you need to make to get where you want to go?
  - Would you like to brainstorm some ideas about how to get there?
  - What personal strengths and areas of growth are being revealed during this time?
  - What is in the way and keeping you from moving forward?
- 
- ✓ *Being centered*
  - ✓ *Having a vision*
  - ✓ *Developing a plan*
  - ✓ *Abiding in faith*

## **Implementation**

*Nehemiah 2:16-18, ... Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. **They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.***

- What will you do over the next week, month, year?
  - What would you like to be able to report when you get together next time?
  - How have you prioritized your action steps?
  - What will be a first step for you?
  - How determined are you to reach your goals?
- 
- ✓ *Starting strong*
  - ✓ *Overcoming challenges*
  - ✓ *Serving others*
  - ✓ *Finishing well*

## **Celebration**

*Nehemiah 8:9-12, ... Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." ... **Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.***

- What is there to celebrate today?
  - What is a good way to reward yourself because of a win?
- 
- ✓ *Finishing is cause for celebration*
  - ✓ *Celebration comes out of sacrifice*
  - ✓ *Celebration comes out of a balanced life*
  - ✓ *The joy of celebration energizes*

## **Transformation**

*9:1-6, ... They stood where they were and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for a quarter of the day, and spent another quarter in confession and in worshipping the Lord their God. ... "Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. **You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.***

- How do you see God working?
  - What are some new insights?
  - How have you been changed?
- 
- ✓ *Responses to God's blessings*
  - ✓ *Growing-Going-Gathering-Generosity*
  - ✓ *Commitment requires change*