

# **Ministry & The Work of God: 3**

## **Some Key Characteristics of Ministers**

### **Nehemiah 1 & 2**

#### **Nehemiah 1.2 - LOVE OF PEOPLE**

- a genuine love and concern for people. This is the heart of God.
- a minister serves – it's not about a career.
- that love drives us to our knees to pray

#### **Nehemiah 1.4-11 - PRAYER**

- our actions stem from our earnest prayer for the world
- Here I am, send me (Isaiah 6.8) is the correct response

#### **Nehemiah 1.6 - HOLY LIVING**

- repentance and holiness are vital.

#### **Nehemiah 1.8 - PEOPLE OF THE WORD**

- God's Word gives us our strategies
- Put God in remembrance of His Word – Isaiah 43.26
- Ministers must be proclaimers of the Word of God.

#### **Nehemiah 1.11 - AVAILABILITY**

- our wilful unavailability means we are unusable
- God does not override our will.

#### **Nehemiah 2.1 - UNCOMFORTABLE**

- the word '*sad*' literally means 'heaviness of heart, distress, evil, angry'
- those who are not doing what they ought to be get very uncomfortable and frustrated, they get angry and wound-up over little things.
  
- ministry will also take us out of our comfort-zones.

#### **Nehemiah 2.11-18 - GET STUCK IN!**

- The time comes to get stuck in and fulfill the ministry God has given.
- Too many talk up what they will do but never actually do anything

#### **Nehemiah 2.20 - UNSHAKEN**

- true ministers are grounded in their call
- not easily shaken - they last the course