

**Nehemiah: Building a Life of Faith
Refocusing - It Requires Honest Prayer
Nehemiah 9:1-38 (page 342)**

Sunday, April 17, 2011

Frank Mascaro

**Prayer helps me *refocus* on God and His g r e a t n e s s
(Neh 9:1-6)**

- His g r e a t n e s s leads me to
 - Personal h u m i l i t y and c o n f e s s i o n
(vs 1-3; Lev 20:26)
 - W o r s h i p Him (vs 4-6; Psalm 8:1-9; 19:1; 147:4-9)

**Prayer helps me *refocus* on God and His g o o d n e s s
(Neh 9:7-25)**

- His g o o d n e s s causes me to r e m e m b e r His:
 - C a l l i n g and p r o m i s e (vs 7-8; 2 Cor 5:17)
 - P o w e r to s a v e (vs 9-11; Heb 2:14-15; Phil 2:9-11)
 - G u i d a n c e and p r o v i s i o n
(vs 12-15; John 16:13; Phil 4:19)
 - F a i t h f u l n e s s in spite of my u n b e l i e f
(vs 16-21; 2 Tim 2:13)
 - s t r e n g t h for v i c t o r y in life's battles
(vs 22-25; 2 Pet 1:3)

**Prayer helps me *refocus* on God and His g r a c e
(Neh 9:26-31; Ex 34:6-7a)**

- His g r a c e finds me even when I:
 - R e j e c t His t r u t h (26-27)
 - Fail to l e a r n from my m i s t a k e s (v 28)
 - Refuse to h e e d His w a r n i n g s (vs 29-31)

(continued on back)

**Prayer helps me *refocus* on God and His m e r c y
(Neh 9:32-38)**

- His mercy encourages me to:
 - Acknowledge my f a i l u r e to l e a r n from the p a s t
(vs 32-37; Ps 51:1-2; Heb 4:14-16)
 - C o m m i t to a life of o b e d i e n c e starting today
(v 38; Lam 3:22-23)

Taking it home....

Would you commit to taking some solitary and uninterrupted time this week to pray and meditate on God and write down the following?

God has shown His *Greatness* to me in/by (list them)

God has shown His *Goodness* to me in/by (list them)

God has shown His *Grace* to me in/by (list them)

God has shown His *Mercy* to me in/by (list them)

Then review your lists and see if these reminders would lead you to consider committing yourself to following Jesus in a new and more purposeful way each day.