September 25 Answers

1) Nehemiah's actions teach us several lessons. First, Nehemiah based his prayer on God's <u>character</u>. This teaches us that <u>theology</u> is the foundation of devotion. We can't have a right relationship with God if we don't understand who He is. Nehemiah's prayer shows that he knew God to be an awesome, faithful and approachable God (Neh 1:5–6). Second, Nehemiah's appeal to the king came <u>after</u> he asked for God's guidance and blessing. This teaches us the importance of seeking God's will in all our decisions. When our plans are in <u>harmony</u> with God's desires, we can rest in the knowledge that His "good hand" is on us. Third, Nehemiah showed <u>prudence</u> by spending time with the leaders of the remnant and by inspecting the walls in secret before he encouraged them to rebuild (Neh 2:11–12). This teaches us to build <u>relationships</u> with those we seek to influence and thoroughly <u>research</u> a situation before we propose a solution. If we follow Nehemiah's example, we will build consensus, demonstrate <u>integrity</u>, and give others the confidence to join us in our endeavors.