



## Surprised by the Transforming Victory of God

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**Transformation is a fundamental change in a person's spiritual life**

**Victory is a success or a triumph over an opponent in battle or other competition**

**Transformative victory means a contest was won and the victory resulted in lasting change**

### Surprising Victory

1. The call itself
2. Obstacles confront us
3. Conflicts threaten to derail us
4. Praying eludes us
5. Work can seem to overwhelm us

Nehemiah 8:10

*<sup>10</sup> "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 our strength."*

Nehemiah 10:29

*<sup>29</sup> all these now join their fellow Israelites the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the Lord our Lord.*

## God's Surprising Power

1. We persevere and persist
2. Our prayer deepens and intensifies
3. We work harder than we thought we could
4. We work more with others
5. We discover strength to go against the cultural flow
6. New ideas come to us and innovation happens
7. Wisdom grows

## Victory is not a one-time thing!

1. We must continue to sustain and grow
2. Anything left alone will decline
3. We must refresh and remind

Nehemiah 13:6-7

*<sup>6</sup> But while all this was going on, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Some time later I asked his permission <sup>7</sup> and came back to Jerusalem. Here I learned about the evil things Eliashib had done...*

2 Peter 1:12-15

*<sup>12</sup> So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you know have. <sup>13</sup> I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, <sup>14</sup> because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. <sup>15</sup> And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things*

**What's your wall?**

**What would victory look like?**

## **Take-Aways**

1. Doing great things for God does not require you to be employed in ministry
2. Recognize and respond when you feel God's tug
3. Make sure it's something worth fighting for
4. Be ready for trouble and deal with it immediately
5. Sacrifice is part of the deal
6. Stay honest with yourself and God
7. Follow through
8. Watch what God does!