

# 2021 Out-of-the-Box Women's Encounter

## PROPELLING WOMEN FORWARD: WHAT CAN BE DONE AMID CHALLENGES

(Nehemiah)

- **Who are You?**

- **Vision: Pillars of the City**

- **Remnant Becomes Known During Times of Challenge**

1:3 And they said to me, "The **remnant** there in the province **who survived the captivity** are in **great distress and disgrace**, and the **wall of Jerusalem is broken down** and its **gates have been burned with fire.**"

- **Ordinary Person**

1:11b Now I was the **cupbearer to the king**. 2:2 So the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, though you are not ill? This is nothing but sadness of heart." Then I was very much afraid. 3 And I said to the king, "May the king live forever. **Why should my face not be sad when the city, the site of my fathers' tombs, is desolate and its gates have been consumed by fire?**" 4 Then the king said to me, "What would you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. 5 Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, I request that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."

- **Feels Impossible / Criticized**

2:17 Then I said to them, "**You see the bad situation we are in**, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates have been burned by fire. Come, let's rebuild the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a disgrace." 18 And I told them how the hand of my God had been favorable to me and also about the king's words which he had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let's arise and build." So they put their hands to the good work. 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard about it, **they mocked us and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"** 20 So I answered them and said to them, "**The God of heaven will make us successful; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no part, right, or memorial in Jerusalem.**"

- **Both Spiritual & Practical**

4:17 *Those who were rebuilding the wall and those who carried burdens carried **with one hand doing the work (hammer)**, and the other keeping hold of a weapon (sword).*

Spiritual	Practical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Prayer – 5 Types</b></li><li>● <b>Dialogue with the Holy Spirit</b></li><li>● <b>Watchful for Signs of the Enemy's Plot</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Prioritize</b></li><li>● <b>Make Your Community</b></li><li>● <b>Find Your Assignment</b></li><li>● <b>Do What is in front of you</b></li></ul>

- **Expect the Enemy's Plot**

4:8 *So all of them **conspired together to come to fight against** Jerusalem and to **cause confusion** in it.*

### 8 Signs You Are Dealing with an Attack from the Enemy (Thru People or Situations)

1. Discouragement
2. Confusion
3. Depression
4. Loss of Vision
5. Disorientation
6. Withdrawal
7. Despair
8. Defeat

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- **Your Assignment INCLUDES Your Family**

4:8 then I stationed men in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, the exposed places, and I stationed the people in families with their swords, spears, and bows.

- **Your Community Includes Builders & Warriors**

4:16 And from that day on, half of my servants carried on the work while half of them kept hold of the spears, the shields, the bows, and the coats of mail; and the captains were behind all the house of Judah.

- **Prioritized Their Duties**

4:23 So neither I, my brothers, my servants, nor the men of the guard who followed me—none of us removed our clothes; each took his weapon even to the water.

- **Finding Your Eternal Priorities** – what things take your time, energy or money that have no eternal or relational benefit? What of those items can you say no to? What of those items can you reduce in priority? This will be different for every person. This is NOT about condemnation but looking at your priorities given what God is calling you to do. No right or wrong answers.
  - (Examples: I can say no to my weekly shopping trip so I have more time and money for God's calling. I can lower my priority on having a perfectly immaculate house. I can do dishes once per day vs. after every meal.)
- **Principle of 12** – Is listing who your top 12 people in your life. Modeled after Jesus discipleship of 12 people. Circle the three that are the closest/highest priority. Be sure you make time emotionally, physically, and spiritually for these people first. On the worksheet provided, list your top 12 people and then circle the 3 with the highest priority. More details about this available online at: <https://colindye.com/2013/04/10/the-principle-of-12/>
- **3 Primary Types of Relationships (Paul / Barnabas / Timothy)** - there are three primary types of relationships modeled to us throughout scripture. Identifying your relationships through these lenses often helps in knowing how to relate and prioritize your relationships based on your emotional capacity, see investment level in the chart below. Be sure to assign your top 12 relationships with a relationship type in the worksheet.

Understand that individuals in these roles will change with time. Some can be all three in your life simultaneously, this is more rare. This helps in having the right approach with people and understanding the emotional/spiritual bandwidth that is needed before engaging with them. All leaders need to have a balance of all 3 types of relationships. Too heavy in one relationship type can lead to complacency.

Type	Role	Investment Level	Attitude Posture
Paul	Mentor	Low	Receive
Barnabas	Encourager	Medium	Share Equally
Timothy	Mentee	High	Give

More In Depth Teaching Available At:

Paul - <https://calibrate360.com/115-three-vital-relationships-every-leader-must-have-the-mentor/>

Barnabas - [https://calibrate360.com/a\\_barnabas\\_to\\_encourage\\_us/](https://calibrate360.com/a_barnabas_to_encourage_us/)

Timothy - <https://calibrate360.com/developing-the-timothees-in-our-lives/>

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FINDING ETERNAL PRIORITIES	PRIORITIZING & MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY	
<b>What are non-eternal or non-relational things that consume my time/energy that <u>I can say NO to?</u></b>  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9.	<b>Who are my 12 most important people?</b>	<b>What type of relationship do I have with each of them?</b>
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	5.	
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	
	9.	
	10.	
	11.	
	12.	
		<i>(Circle the top 3 after completed)</i>
<b>What are non-eternal or non-relational things that I should <u>no longer</u> make a top priority?</b>  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9.	<b>Others?</b>	
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	5.	
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	
	9.	
	10.	
	11.	
	12.	
		<i>(Fill out as many as comes to mind)</i>

Notes:

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## FINDING "YOUR THING" IN FRONT OF YOU

What has the Lord given you a heart and compassion for?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Of These, Which Ones Do I Pray About the Most?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Of these, Which Ones Am I Wanting to Take Action?

- 1.
- 2.

Which One am I Willing to Make Big Sacrifices for?

- 1.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ASSIGNMENT?

*Take Home Contemplation: What is in front of me that I can begin "stepping out" in? (Story of Nehemiah)*

Notes:

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## PERSONAL CONTEMPLATION ON RELATIONSHIPS

**Do you have a relationship that has ended or is severely damaged?** *(This question can be interchanged)*

**Was the relationship ending required to prevent harm to yourself or to another?** *Ps 82:4*

**Do you pray a prayer of blessing over them every time they come to your mind?** *Matt 5:44*

**What boundaries could be implemented to create a more healthy relational interaction in the future?** *Titus 3:10*

**DO YOU FEEL THE LORD IS ASKING YOU TO DO ANYTHING IN THIS RELATIONSHIP?** *Matt 18*

*Take Home Contemplation: How can you grow in NOT comparing yourself to others? 1 Cor 4:7*

Notes:

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## THE INVISIBLE ENEMY: STRATEGIC FOCUS WHERE IT MATTERS MOST

(Genesis 3)

- **You are a threat!!!**

Why do you think there has been so much suppression, degrading and minimizing of women? Why do the majority of women even in the church look defeated and walking in victory is only for the few? Why? Because the enemy is scared of us!!! Why are we as women such a big threat?

- **The Enemy Deceives thru Partial Truth**

3:1-7 Now the serpent was more **cunning** (Strong's H6175 - 'ārûm - subtle, shrewd, crafty, sly, sensible crafty shrewd, sensible, prudent) than any animal of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God really said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" 2 The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; 3 but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or **you will die.**'" 4 The serpent said to the woman, "**You certainly will not die!** 5 For God knows that on the day you eat from it **your eyes will be opened, and you will become like God, knowing good and evil.**" 6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the **eyes of both of them were opened**, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves waist coverings.

3:22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the **man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil;** and now, he might reach out with his hand, and take fruit also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—

- **How to Discern Partial Truth? (Parallel to Jesus' Wilderness Temptations)**

- Do you hear something (even small) that is not true? Don't listen to anything else that is said!
- Ask is there a clear lie in any portion of what is said/done/etc? Is it incomplete?
- Do you believe it is true but it does not make you feel loved by God?
- **Does it make you believe God is withholding something good from you?**
- Does it make you believe that you have no choice, or it's the only way to get what you desire?
- Does it make you not content with where God has you and what He has given you?
- Does it make you think that your own reasoning is the only thing necessary (opinion) to determine it's validity?
- Do you want others to do the same as you to justify your decision that it's right?

- **False Perceptions Were the Downfall (Not Impulsive)**

3:6 When the woman **SAW** that the **tree was good for food**, and that it was a **delight to the eyes**, and that the **tree was desirable to make one wise**, she took some of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate.

- **SAW** (Strong's H7200) - to see, look at, inspect, **perceive**, consider

Eve did not make a haste decision but yet contemplated her decision with reasoning...it may have taken days, months or years for this to transpire...it didn't happen in a moment, it wasn't impulsive...she thought it through

1 John 2:16 - For all that is in the world, the **lust of the flesh** and the **lust of the eyes** and the **boastful pride of life**, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

<b>Good for food</b>	<b>Lust of the Flesh</b>	<b>Soul: Emotions</b>
<b>Delight to the Eyes</b>	<b>Lust of the Eyes</b>	<b>Soul: Mind</b>
<b>Desirable to Make One Wise</b>	<b>Pride of Life</b>	<b>Soul: Will</b>

James 1:15 - Then, when **desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin;** and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

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Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way that **seems right** to a man, But its end is the way of death.

Job 33:14 - For God may speak in one way, or in another, Yet man **does not perceive it**

Isaiah 6:9 - And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but **do not perceive**."

Matthew 13:14b - And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: 'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and **not perceive**; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it"

1 Timothy 2:14 - Adam was not the one deceived; it was the **woman who was deceived** and became a sinner.

2 Corinthians 11:3 - But I am afraid that **just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may** somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

- **Women – The Enemy's Enemy**

3:14-15 The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all the cattle, And more than any animal of the field; On your belly you shall go, And dust you shall eat All the days of your life. 15 "And I will put **enmity (open hostility) Between you and the woman**, And between your seed (offspring) and her Seed;

Enmity – to make war with

- An I will put ENMITY between you and the WOMAN, and between your seed and her Seed..." As I read those words, the sweetness of the Holy Spirit hit me, and I heard Him speak, **"YOU are his greatest THREAT!"**
- As women, we were appointed by God from the beginning of time to make war with the serpent!!
- And he is CURSED with our very existence!
- Jesus redeemed us from the curse of the fall, but NOT him!
- No wonder there has been such an attempt throughout history to oppress women and steal our voice!

Revelation 12:12 - For this reason, rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great wrath, knowing that **he has only a short time.**"

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## PUTTING THE PLAN INTO ACTION

**My Assignment** (from Finding "Your Thing" form) is:

*(i.e. To equip others to be effective child advocates)*

**What one measurable outcome will let me know that I am doing my assignment?**

*(i.e. 10 individuals completed the child advocate training)*

**Resources that Are Available to Me:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

*(i.e. books, podcasts, non-profits, meetings, training, etc)*

**Baby Steps that I Can Take within the Next 90 Days:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

*(i.e. meet with someone specific, research a topic, etc)*

**Obstacles that May Arise:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ----->
2. \_\_\_\_\_ ----->
3. \_\_\_\_\_ ----->
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ----->
5. \_\_\_\_\_ ----->

**Resolutions that I Can Use:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*(i.e. Busy Schedule with children -----> Take 2 nights per week after bed or During Naps)*

Notes:



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## QUESTIONS AND CONTEMPLATIONS TO CREATE DIALOGUE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

### WHO AM I BEFORE GOD?

- How am I going to set aside time with the Lord to dialogue and ask Him questions?
- Who am I APART from my roles as a wife, mother, daughter, sister, employee, etc?
- What are the lies the enemy continually repeats to me?
- What is the truth vs. partial truth?
- What false perception about myself am I believing?
- What are my passions?
- What are my giftings?
- Do my passions & giftings work together?
- What do I want to see as an outcome of my gifts and passions?
- Who around me supports my walk with God and strengthens me in my pursuit of Him?
- How can I be around them more?
- Do I have someone that I respect and admire their walk with God? How can I spend more time with them and learn from them?
- Who in my life can I invest/pour into?

### HOW CAN I OBEY GOD & LIFE RESPONSIBILITIES?

- Where am I putting my time and energy?
- What are the things that drain me and don't produce life?
- What or who produces life in me?
- Can my family do part or all of it with me? Would they want to? Should I ask them?
- After my immediate family, who are my top relationship priorities? Extended family, friends, business/ministry associates?
- If I made a list of the top 12 people to prioritize in my life, who would be on it?
- What types of boundaries, limits, and parameters can I establish for those who are not on my top 12 list? How can I make the most room in my life for those on my list of 12?
- Are there things that steal/waste my time/energy?
- What TYPE of relationships do I need to nurture?
- WHO in my life causes me to feel drained? Can I reduce my one-on-one interaction with them so I have the most energy & time for my top 12?

### HOW DO I EXECUTE A PLAN?

- Who can I pray with to seek the Lord for strategy? What is the Lord speaking to me about? What is stirring within my spirit?
- What strategy/idea is the Lord giving you? Does it feel like you are unable to do it on your own? Good! That means you will NEED HIM!
- What are some small short-term action items I can do to start taking action?
- WHO can support or partner with me in executing this plan?
- HOW is the Lord telling me to do it, not just WHAT is He saying to do?
- Who or what are sources of wisdom I can receive counsel from (multitude).
- What resources do I need?
- Where are my available resources?
- How can I become more consistent in executing my plan?

### HOW DO I HANDLE OBSTACLES?

- What type of prayer is the best fit for this obstacle?
- What obstacles can I imagine that I may face?
- Is there a way to avoid any of those obstacles strategically?
- Are any of the obstacles a result of relational conflict? What is the Lord asking me to do about that? How do I position my heart towards them?
- What scriptures am I able to speak out that can encourage me amid obstacles?
- What in my own heart, body, emotions, and mind that need healing? What areas am I avoiding that need to be dealt with?
- Do I have a history of getting into relationships that don't produce good fruit in my life? If so, am I allowing others to take advantage of me?
- Where can I find encouragement, prayer, or support when I hit a wall or major obstacles?