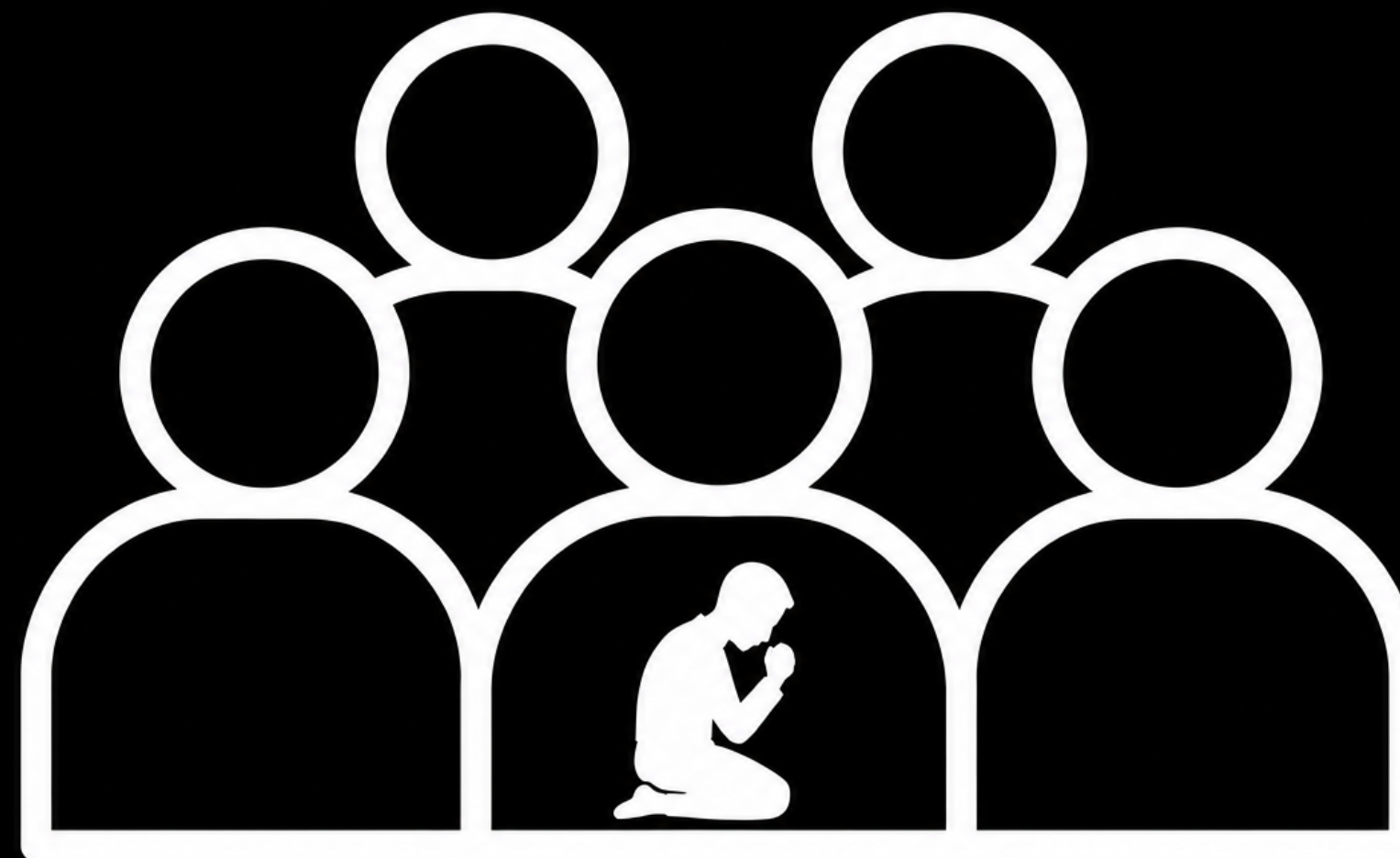
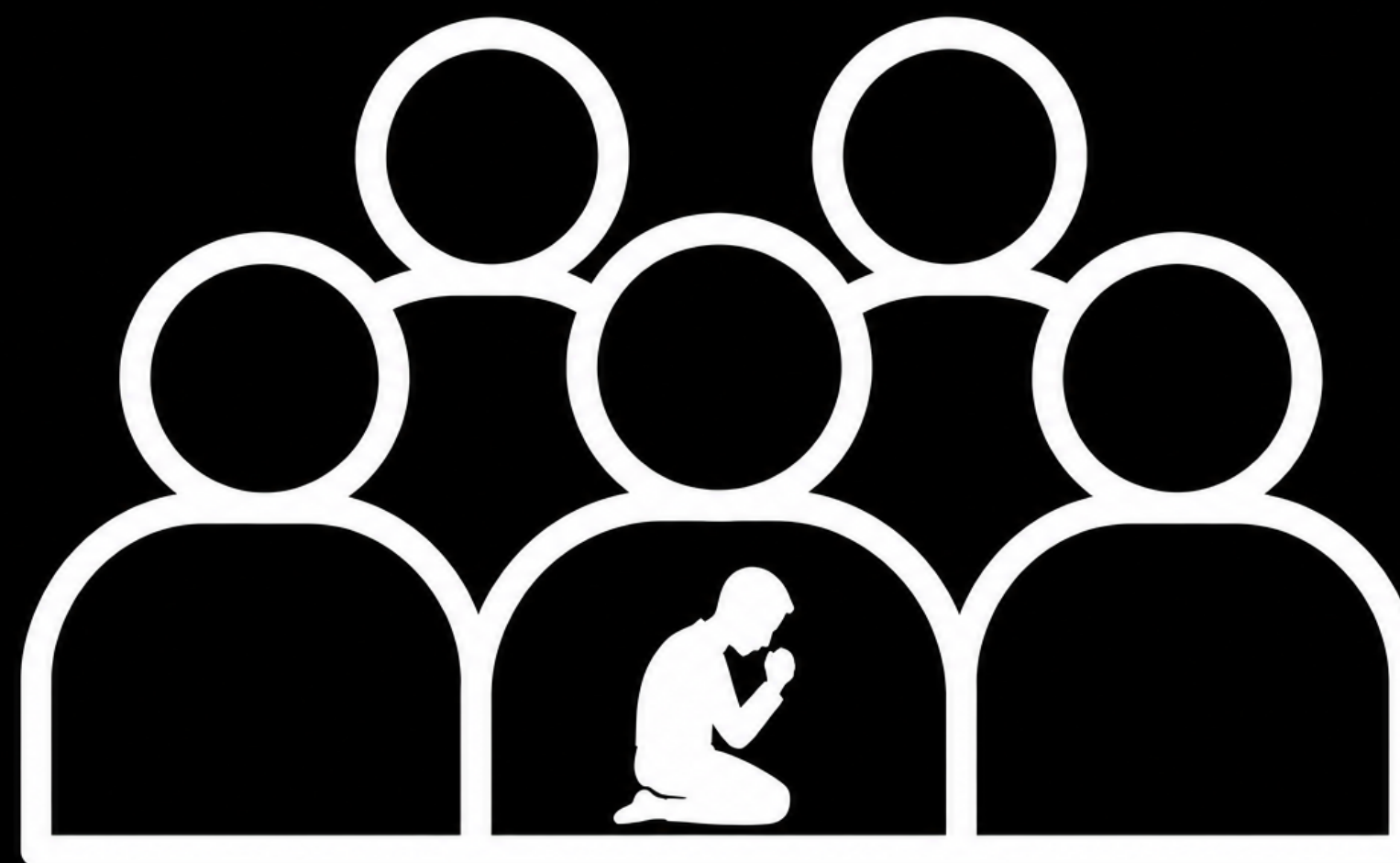


Let Us Arise and Build

Nehemiah 5

Walk in the Fear of God

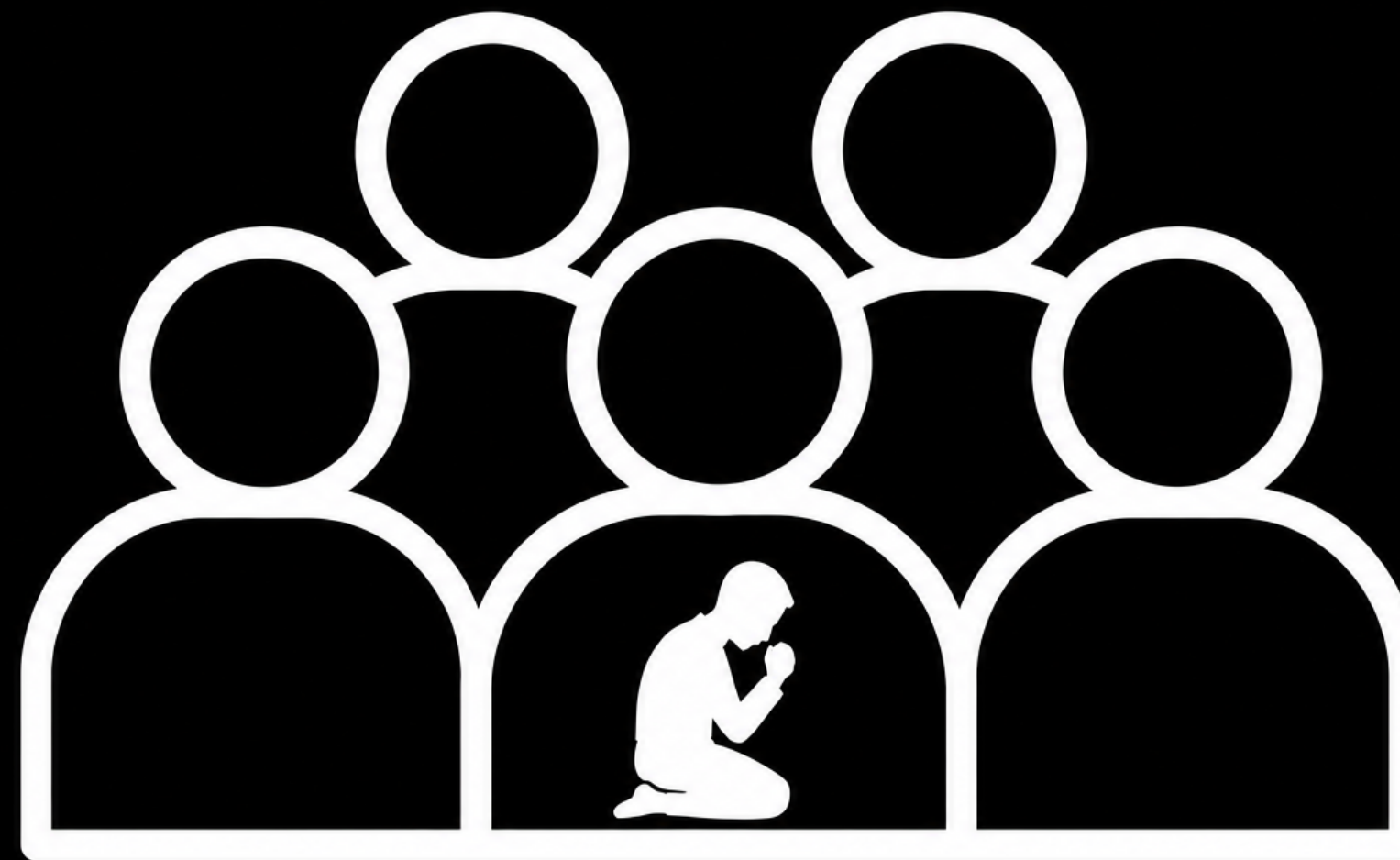




Prayer Focus Work Togetherness

The Big Truth:

Fear of God shapes how we live, work and play
in relation to God and one another.



Nehemiah 5:1 Now there was **a great outcry** of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. 2 For there were those who said, “We, our sons and our daughters are many; therefore let us get grain that we may eat and live.” 3 There were others who said, “We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our houses that we might get grain because of the famine.” 4 Also there were those who said, “We have borrowed money for the king’s tax on our fields and our vineyards. 5 Now our flesh is like the flesh of our brothers, our children like their children. Yet behold, we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our daughters are forced into bondage already, and we are helpless because our fields and vineyards belong to others.”

1. There was a great outcry because the people were increasingly discouraged. v. 1-5

When God's people stop walking together
in the fear of the Lord,
difficulty can turn into division and
hardship can turn into heartache.

Nehemiah 5:6 Then I was very angry when I had heard their outcry and these words. 7 I consulted with myself and contended with the nobles and the rulers and said to them, “You are exacting usury, each from his brother!” Therefore, I held a great assembly against them. 8 I said to them, “We according to our ability have redeemed our Jewish brothers who were sold to the nations; now would you even sell your brothers that they may be sold to us?” Then they were silent and could not find a word to say. 9 Again I said, “The thing which you are doing is not good; **should you not walk in the fear of our God** because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies?”

2. The warning is a reminder that fearing God shapes our relationships. v. 6-13

The circumstances didn't excuse their behavior;
the fear of God should have constrained it.

Nehemiah 5:10 And likewise I, my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Please, let us leave off this usury. 11 Please, give back to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive groves and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money and of the grain, the new wine and the oil that you are exacting from them.” 12 Then they said, “We will give it back and will require nothing from them; we will do exactly as you say.” So I called the priests and took an oath from them that they would do according to this promise. 13 I also shook out the front of my garment and said, “Thus may God shake out every man from his house and from his possessions who does not fulfill this promise; even thus may he be shaken out and emptied.” And all the assembly said, “Amen!” And they praised the Lord. Then the people did according to this promise.

2. The warning is a reminder that fearing God shapes our relationships. v. 6-13

The fear of God produces repentance,
and repentance produces restitution.

Nehemiah 5:14 Moreover, from the day that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes, for twelve years, neither I nor my kinsmen have eaten the governor's food allowance. 15 But the former governors who were before me laid burdens on the people and took from them bread and wine besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants domineered the people. But I did not do so because of the fear of God. 16 I also applied myself to the work on this wall; we did not buy any land, and all my servants were gathered there for the work.

3. Nehemiah exemplified loving God and loving people. v. 14-19
 - a. Nehemiah's example was personal.

To fear God is to
trust Him,
revere Him,
obey Him and
depend on Him.

Nehemiah 5:17 Moreover, there were at my table one hundred and fifty Jews and officials, besides those who came to us from the nations that were around us. 18 Now that which was prepared for each day was one ox and six choice sheep, also birds were prepared for me; and once in ten days all sorts of wine were furnished in abundance. Yet for all this I did not demand the governor's food allowance, because the servitude was heavy on this people. 19 Remember me, O my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

3. Nehemiah exemplified loving God and loving people. v. 14-19
 - b. Nehemiah's example was generous.

When God's people walk together
in the fear of the Lord,
hardship doesn't have to divide us;
it can become an opportunity to love, serve,
encourage & care for one another.

GOD'S KINGDOM WORK

FOLLOWING CHRIST

MATURING TOGETHER

MULTIPLYING GENERATIONS

LOVE / KNOW

SPEAK (THE TRUTH)

DO

THINK BIG

START SMALL

GO SLOW

BUILD DEEP

PRAYER

BY HIS GRACE

DONE IN LOVE

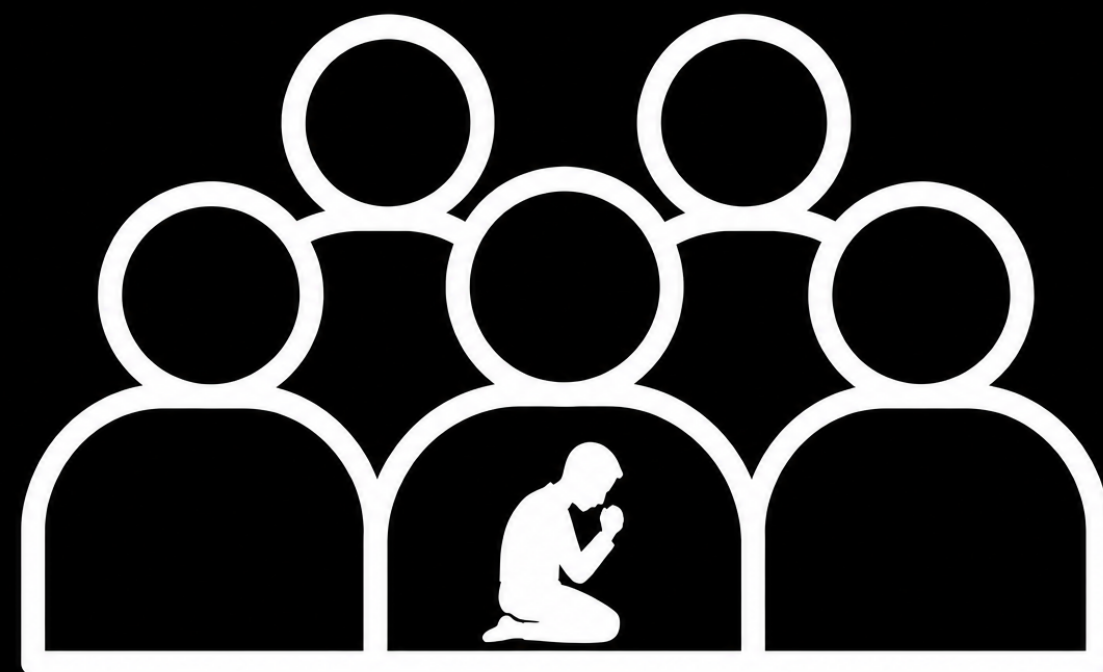
FOR HIS GLORY

GOD'S WORD

Fear of God shapes how we live, work and play
in relation to God and one another.

John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**, even as I have loved you, that you also **love one another**. 35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you **have love for one another**.”

1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be **done in love**.



Fear God.
Love people.
Restore community.
Glorify God.

When I ask: How will the fear of God shape us?
You respond: **We will love God and love one another.**

When I ask: What will we do when we have wronged one another?
You respond: **We will repent, make things right, and pursue unity.**

When I ask: Why do we do good to people?
You respond: **For the glory of God and the witness of the gospel.**

When I ask: How do we continue working?
You respond: **Let us arise and build.**

Here is what we can do together as fellow workers:

This week, PRAY

“Lord, help us walk in the fear of You
and love one another as You have loved us.”

