

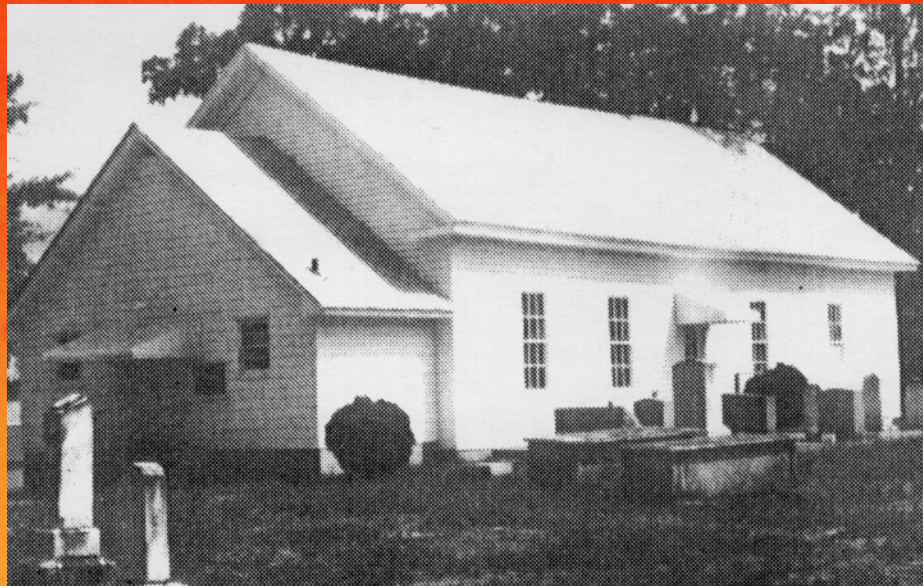


Power Up!





# Lawrence, MI







## **Nehemiah 1:2-4**

Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah. I asked them about the Jews who had returned there from captivity and about how things were going in Jerusalem.





**Nehemiah 1:2-4** They said to me, “Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.” <sup>4</sup> When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.





1. Prodigal receiving  
churches have a  
passion for God.






## **Nehemiah prayed...**

- a. When he heard bad news. 1:4
- b. Before a life-changing meeting. 4-5
- c. When opposition arose. 6:8-9
- d. When something needed correction. 7:4-5
- e. When the people needed forgiveness.  
9:1-2
- f. When he finishes the book. 14:30-31



A photograph of a person's head and arms resting on a wooden surface. The person is wearing a plaid shirt and has their head buried in their arms, suggesting a state of distress or exhaustion. The lighting is warm and the background is dark.

"The shortness of time is urged as an incentive for us to seek righteousness and to make Christ our friend. This is not the great motive. It savors of selfishness. Is it necessary that the terrors of the day of God be held before us to compel us through fear to right action? This ought not to be. Jesus is attractive. He is full of love, mercy, and compassion...It is our privilege to have a calm, close, happy walk with Jesus every day we live." (E.G. White, *Review and Herald*, August 2, 1881)





1. How important is prayer, fasting and worship in your church?

2. How long are announcements? How long is prayer time?

2. Think about your church board and committee meetings. How much time is spent seeking God's ideas and thoughts on a particular issue? How can you make prayer a priority in every meeting you have?






2. A prodigal receiving  
church understands the  
principles of prayer.





- a. It's specific. What are you praying about? James 5:13-15
- b. It's measurable. What result would you expect God to bring about? James 5:17-18
- c. It's constant. Never stop praying? James 5:18



A photograph of a person's head and arms. The person is wearing a plaid shirt and has their head buried in their hands, which are clasped together. They are resting their head on a wooden surface. The lighting is warm and orange-toned.


Before Jesus can do something for you, he has to be able to do something in you. Prayer changes you before it changes your circumstances.





“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).





3. Prodigal receiving  
churches have  
experienced the power  
of prayer.





a. Prayer can change circumstances,  
but it always changes you.





b. Prayer precedes strategy,  
informs it and helps it succeed.





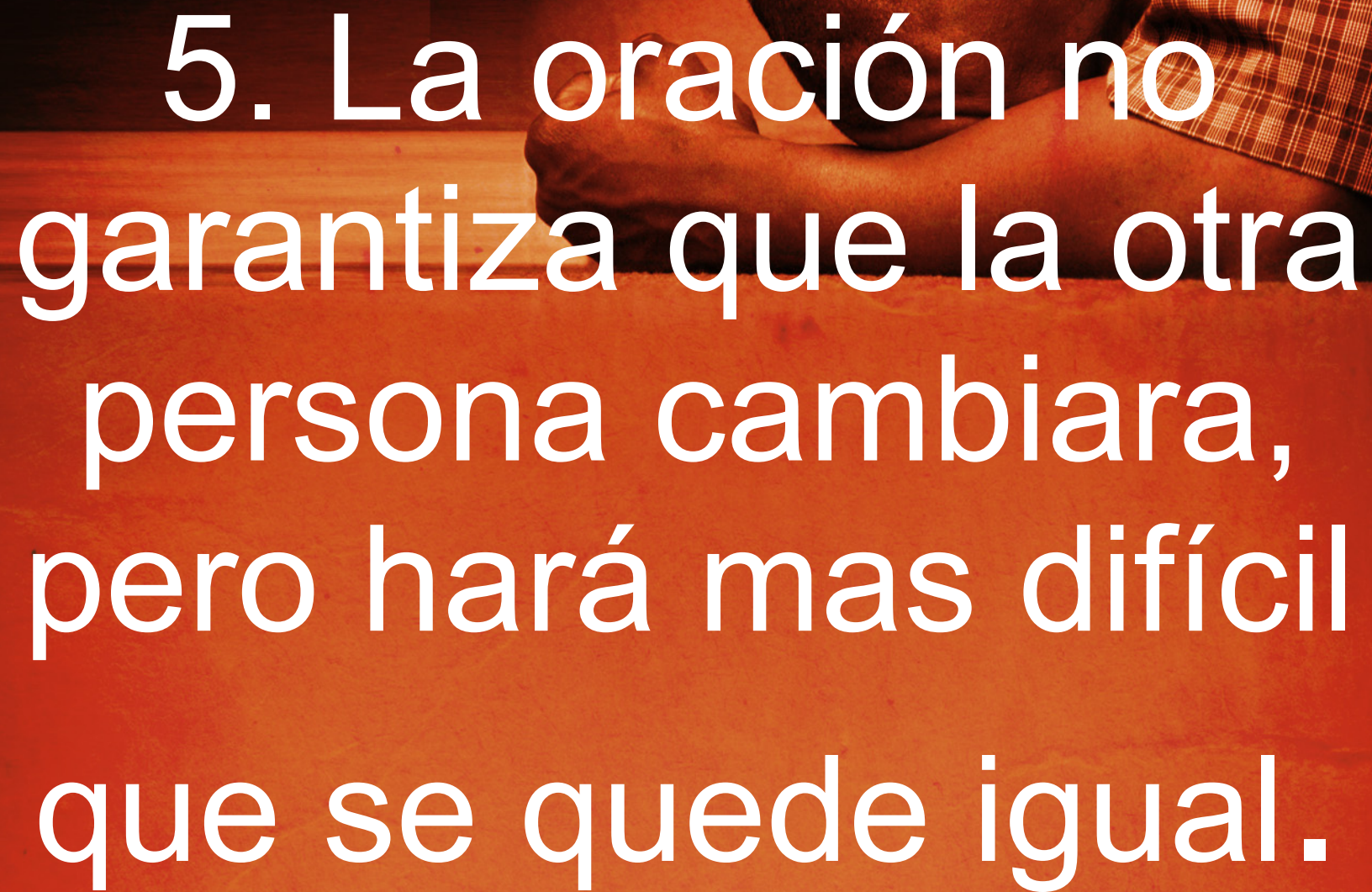
c. Nothing happens until you pray.  
Nothing much happens if you only pray.





d. God does not give explanations. He gives solutions.



A person wearing a plaid shirt is shown from the chest up, with their head buried in their arms, resting on a wooden surface. The background is a warm, reddish-brown color.

5. La oración no  
garantiza que la otra  
persona cambiara,  
pero hará mas difícil  
que se quede igual.





**Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request. 1 Chronicles 4:10**





# Secret Rules

Cuando oramos él nos dice...

- a. No, te amo demasiado.
- b. Si, pero vas a tener que esperar.
- c. Si, pero no te voy a contestar como esperas.
- d. Si, y además te voy a dar \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Si, ¿Por qué esperaste tanto tiempo?