

## LEADERSHIP REQUIRES COURAGE

*Nehemiah 2:9-20*

By Rod MacIlvaine

**Introduction:** The greatest movies are great precisely because they depict courage so well. We see the courage of William Wallace in the movie Braveheart as he's portrayed by Mel Gibson. He led his people to freedom. We see the courage of Frodo Baggins in the Lord of the Rings trilogy as he takes the ring of power into Mordor and destroys it in the fires of Mt. Doom. He saved an entire civilization. We see the courage of MacDuff as he takes on the villainous monster MacBeth in Shakespeare's finest play. He got justice and saved a realm. We love depictions of courage because they inspire us to similar actions. As we continue in our series in Nehemiah, we see the kind of courage we need when we start a new venture. In life, we frequently enter new seasons of family, career and marriage. Those seasons require fresh leadership on our part. And as we lead in these new stages we can't slouch back into passivity. We need to ramp up fresh courage. As Nehemiah arrives in Jerusalem, he exhibits three traits of courage that can help us as we lead in the various areas of our life.

**1. Courage to use your talents**

*Nehemiah 2:9*

**2. Courage to cast vision**

*Nehemiah 2:11-18*

**3. Courage to overcome evil**

*Nehemiah 2:10, 19-20*

**4. Idea**

**5. Takeaways**