Nehemiah 5 – 6:14 Building the Kingdom Ethics

Potential pitfalls for God's Kingdom

Ripping off your family (5:1-13)

out of touch - no compassion

v.9 "you should fear God"

Principles in OT law: grace, mercy, generosity, compassion, support

Lurks and perks (5:14-19)

use your position for financial advantage

v.15c "Out of reverence for God"

Serving myself (6:1-14)

if Nehemiah was a power hungry leader he would be relying on his own strength

feared God more than he feared men

Phil 2: Jesus, in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be held onto to, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man he humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Do I expect God to honour me or I am I here to honour him?

If your reverence for God causes you to be generous to others, ready to serve God and fellow believers, not fearing anything what anyone else might say about you, then you're on the right track