# IMPACTING YOUR COMMUNITY

F.I.T. TO LEAD VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE MID ATLANTIC EPISCOPAL DISTRICT – A.M.E. ZION CHURCH OCTOBER 14, 2021 – 1 P.M. DR. JACQUELINE A. THOMPSON

### IMPACT REALIZED

- Marked influence/effect on something or someone
- Identifiable worthwhile positive outcomes as a result of our work
- Turning the curve on a community indicator of well-being or problem
- Measured by two types: Program Level Impact and Population Level Impact

CHRISTOLOGICAL CONCLUSION "CHRIST AND CULTURE" H. RICHARD NIEBHUR

CHRIST AGAINST CULTURE
CHRIST OF CULTURE
CHRIST ABOVE CULTURE
CHRIST AND CULTURE IN PARADOX
CHRIST – THE TRANSFORMER OF CULTURE

# THE CALL

The word "call" is often used to refer to God's invitation to humanity to participate in God's redemptive work in the world UNIVERSAL CALL OF HUMANITY Call to Acknowledge - Exodus 3:14; Psalm 100:3; Psalm 46:10 Call to Respond - Isaiah 6: 1-8 Call to Belong/Relationship - 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 Call to Participate - 2 Corinthians 5:19-20

## BIBLICAL PARADIGM FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT: THE CALL OF NEHEMIAH - SITUATIONAL

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- Nation is coming from under a period of exile Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar defeated Israel, taken people captive and destroyed both the Temple and City of Jerusalem (607-586 B.C.)
- Persia defeated Babylon in 537 B.C. And Jews began to return to Jerusalem after 70 years of exile
- Return took place in three waves

#### HISTORICAL CONTEXT - Return

- Suffering due to economic depression. (Neh. 5:1-3)
- Food Desert conditions due to famine
- Greed and unequal distribution of wealth (5:4-5)
- Racial persecution and harassment (Ezra 4:1-24)
- Unable to protect themselves, walls of Jerusalem had been torn down and the gates burned (Neh. 1:3)

#### HUMAN IMPACT THE QUESTION OF PSALM 11:3

- The people questioned the love and goodness of God
- The struggled with their identity as a people and a nation
- They did not know how to worship and be the people of God without a place (Temple)
  - They were fearful of an unclear and uncertain future
  - (Mental, Emotional, Spiritual, Social and Economic Impact)

#### Nehemiah 1:1-3

## ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED

#### Nehemiah 1:4

## WRESTLED WITH THE BURDEN

#### Nehemiah 1:5-11

## SOUGHT THE LORD

#### Nehemiah 2:1-5

## ANSWERED THE CALL

#### Nehemiah 1:6-9

### Leveraged his influence to advance the call

### THEOLOGICAL CONCLUSIONS

- GOD is at work in and through humanity to address the issues that plague our world
- As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are all called to be rebuilders, repairers, restorers, reconcilers and ambassadors
- God strategically places us in relationship to others to advance our call
- God will provide the resources necessary to fulfill God's work
- The call is ours to answer

