Sermon Discussion Curriculum – Week 7 Nehemiah 8-10:27 – Oct. 17, 2021

NEHEMIAH

Helpful Resources

Check out one or more of these helpful overview videos of Nehemiah: 1) <u>https://bit.ly/1Nehemiah;</u> 2) <u>https://bit.ly/2Nehemiah;</u> 3) <u>https://bit.ly/3Nehemiah3</u>. Be Determined by Warren Wiersbe - <u>https://bit.ly/DeterminedBe</u> Nehemiah: LifeGuide Bible Studies by Don Fields - <u>https://bit.ly/DonFields</u>

Allow God to speak to you through His written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connections and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you need to use all the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!



- Share about a meeting where it was hard to pay attention or stay awake. Why was it difficult?
- When you think about reading Scripture, what image or memory comes to mind?
- A.W. Tozer said, "Truth is a glorious but hard mistress. She never consults, bargains, or compromises". Would you agree in society today that we have lost the concept of "absolute truth"? How would you define truth?
- Talk about a time a verse or passage of Scripture from the Bible changed you or brought comfort to you. What were the circumstances at the time? How did God's word comfort you or convict you at that time in your life?
- The chapters from Nehemiah today talked a lot about rejoicing. When you hear that word 'rejoice,' what do you think of? What's something that you've rejoiced over in your life?
- Have you ever had an emotional reaction to something you read? What was it? Why did it effect and resonate with you?

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- Read Nehemiah 8:1-8. What is the significance of reading the Book of the Law? How do the people react to the reading of God's word?
- How do Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites encourage the people of Israel to react to the reading of the Law (See 8:10)? How should we respond to the reading and teaching of God's Word?
- Read Chapter 9. What do the people of Israel remember about God during the reading of the Law? What is their response to Him? How does this remembering lead the people of Israel to repentance?
- We see in Nehemiah 8:9 that the people's initial reaction to hearing the Law was mourning. We see here what Paul describes in Romans 3:20 when he says, "through the law comes knowledge of sin." Why is that?
- Read Nehemiah 8:9-12. Think about what the people have gone through building the wall in the face of opposition. Now, they hear the Law read and taught, which revealed all the ways they had fallen short and sinned. V.10 says, "the joy of the Lord is your strength". Ezra and the Levites tell the people to go party. How can that be the response in the midst of such conviction? How can we have joy during sorrowful times?
- Nehemiah 9 is one long prayer. Read 9:33. Why is it important that the Levites leading the prayer say "we" instead of "they"? Is it easier for us to acknowledge our own sin or the sin of others? Why?

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- Often we find ourselves centering our joy around good health, finances, material possessions, accomplishments, or otherworldly things. How can these things lead to disappointment and sorrow?
- Nehemiah reminded the people of Israel when they were sorrowful that the joy of the Lord was their strength. Why is it so hard for us as people today to find our ultimate joy in Lord alone?
- Warren Wiersbe said, "The joy that comes from the Lord is real and lasting and enriches our lives. God doesn't give us joy instead of sorrow, or joy in spite of sorrow, but joy in the midst of sorrow. It is not substitution but transformation". How can the joy of the Lord transform the sorrows and difficulties you face?
- In Ch. 10, the people commit to remembering who God is and what He has done. How can you live in a way that consistently remembers God's faithfulness? How can you immerse yourself in Scripture during this upcoming week?
- Fellowship Bible Church was able to give \$25,000 to Seed Company to help translate the Gospel of Luke for 3 remote, unreached people groups in South Asia who have no Scripture in their heart language. Did you know that there are still 171 million people without a single verse of Scripture in their heart language? Do you want to help get Scripture to unreached people groups? Visit seedcompany.com, or email missions@fellowshipar.com to find out how you can help.