



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 5 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- Do you consider conflict to be a positive or negative thing? Why?

- How do you typically deal with/handle selfish people?

- Opening Prayer

- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Nehemiah 5:1-19)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Nehemiah 5:1-5

- Notice that in chapter four the opposition to the rebuilding of the wall comes from outside sources but in chapter five, there is some internal conflict between those who are rebuilding. Why is this important to notice and what does this teach us today about Satan and about us?
 - Resistance and opposition to God's work and His transformation are going to come in many different forms and they may even come through many different people. Devotion and faithfulness to God do not mean that we should not expect resistance and opposition to decrease. Satan is constantly and continually going to be on the offensive. (See 1 Peter 5:8)

As disciples, we need to be poised, vigilant, and ready to continue to battle knowing that God and His Spirit are leading the charge.

- How can you more intentionally be prepared for opposition and resistance in your pursuit of God?
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

Nehemiah 5:6-13

- What would you characterize as the problem regarding how Nehemiah's people were treating each other.
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- How did Nehemiah address the issues/problems within his own people, his brothers and sisters?
 - Nehemiah addressed the issues boldly, directly, and truthfully while also seeking to be a part of the solution rather than the problem.
 - What are some of the lessons that we can learn from Nehemiah's response to his people in regard to how we address conflict with our brothers and sisters in Christ?
 - Some of the lessons that we can learn from Nehemiah's response to his people include the following.
 - Go directly to our brothers and sisters in Christ when conflict arises.
 - Do not complain and gossip to others about our brothers and sisters in Christ when conflict arises.
 - Be willing to speak the truth in love when conflict with our brothers and sisters arises.
 - Be part of the solution in walking with brothers and sisters when conflict arises rather than attempting to tear them down.

Nehemiah 5:14-19

- Do you agree or disagree with the following quote? Explain. “Generosity is not contingent upon what you receive but on what you are willing to give.” Erwin McManus
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

- Why is it significant that Nehemiah did not demand the food allowance of the governor?
 - Nehemiah would have been well within his rights as the governor to not only take but also demand the governor’s food allowance. However, he was focused on what was best for the entire community of faith over and above what he desired and even over and above what he thought he was owed (not to mention that he really was owed the food allowance as the governor.)
 - How do you know as a disciple of Jesus if you’re more of a consumer in the body of Christ or more of a contributor? What do you think others would say about which one you are and why?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
 - How are you currently sacrificing your own desires as a member of Christ’s body because you are more concerned about what is good for the whole of the body of Christ?
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Nehemiah Chapter 6)



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 5 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

- Do you consider conflict to be a positive or negative thing? Why?

- How do you typically deal with/handle selfish people?

- Opening Prayer

- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Nehemiah 5:1-19)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Nehemiah 5:1-5

- Notice that in chapter four the opposition to the rebuilding of the wall comes from outside sources but in chapter five, there is some internal conflict between those who are rebuilding. Why is this important to notice and what does this teach us today about Satan and about us?
 - How can you more intentionally be prepared for opposition and resistance in your pursuit of God?

Nehemiah 5:6-13

- What would you characterize as the problem regarding how Nehemiah's people were treating each other.
- How did Nehemiah address the issues/problems within his own people, his brothers and sisters?
 - What are some of the lessons that we can learn from Nehemiah's response to his people in regard to how we address conflict with our brothers and sisters in Christ?

Nehemiah 5:14-19

- Do you agree or disagree with the following quote? Explain. "Generosity is not contingent upon what you receive but on what you are willing to give." Erwin McManus
- Why is it significant that Nehemiah did not demand the food allowance of the governor?
 - How do you know as a disciple of Jesus if you're more of a consumer in the body of Christ or more of a contributor? What do you think others would say about which one you are and why?
 - How are you currently sacrificing your own desires as a member of Christ's body because you are more concerned about what is good for the whole of the body of Christ?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.

- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Nehemiah Chapter 6)