



## NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 13 (FACILITATOR)

### **Discussion Starter**

- In your opinion, who was/is one of the best leaders in the history of the world and why?
  
- 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 13:1-31)**

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 13:1-3**

- How would you describe the Israelites' reaction when they read from the Book of Moses?
  - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

- How do you typically respond to God's word, especially when you do not like or do not understand what God is saying?
  - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Nehemiah 13:4-9**

□ Nehemiah led the charge regarding the reforms that he brought to the temple but notice that he led those reforms boldly, courageously, and with a sense of purpose and urgency. While a physical structure is no longer the temple of God because we as disciples are (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), what is this passage teaching us about transformation in our own lives?

○ We all have areas of our lives that are not as they should be and that need to be refined and transformed by the power and ability of God. We can ignore that these areas exist, not take these areas seriously, or confront these areas with boldness, courage, and with a sense of purpose and urgency allowing God to transform these areas.

- What areas in your life do you need to more fully approach with boldness, courage, and with a sense of purpose and urgency?
  - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Nehemiah 13:10-14**

□ Nehemiah also led the charge regarding financial reforms of his people and more specifically, the tithes of grain, new wine and oil. What can and should this teach us today about our own finances in following God?

- God cares about every aspect of our lives when we choose to follow Him and this most definitely includes our finances and patterns of giving, spending, and investing monetarily and otherwise.
  - In what ways has God changed your financial lifestyle for His glory? In what ways do you need to allow God to change your financial lifestyle so that you can more fully honor Him?
    - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Nehemiah 13:15-22**

- Notice that Nehemiah is upset that his people aren't keeping the Sabbath. However, his anger wasn't primarily rooted in people not keeping the Sabbath but in what this said about their priorities and how those priorities had not really shifted and changed.
  - In what ways have your priorities changed since you started walking with Jesus? In what ways do your priorities need to change in your walk with Jesus?
    - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Nehemiah 13:23-31**

- Why was Nehemiah so angry about what was taking place in this section of Scripture?
  - Nehemiah was upset because he understood that the relationships the Jews involved themselves in were going to be relationships that led them away from God and not closer to God. God was clear about this and the people chose not to listen.

- In what ways have you been and/or are you being stubborn in your relationship with God?
  - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
  - What relationships in your life are currently drawing you closer to God? What relationships in your life are currently drawing you away from God and what can you do about this?
    - These are perspective and opinion questions 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 (1 Corinthians Chapter 1)



## **NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 13 (STUDENT)**

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