



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 9 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What is something that you had to spend a great deal of time preparing for and what did you do in order to prepare?

- 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 9:1-38)

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 9:1-5

- Why do you think this chapter is included in the story of Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the wall?
 - One of the reasons that this chapter is included in the story of Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the wall is because it points to

the people's intentionality in not becoming complacent and comfortable in their pursuit of God and who He has called them to be. They are intentional in not taking God for granted regarding who He is and what He has done for them and they are also intentional in continuing to acknowledge what needs to change within them.

- In what ways do you need to be more intentional about not being complacent in your relationship with God?
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.
- In what ways do you need to be more intentional in not taking God and His work for granted?
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

Nehemiah 9:6-15

- Oftentimes, our prayers are focused on how we want God to act in the present and in the future, but the first part of this prayer is mainly focused upon who God is and how He has acted in the past. Why?
 - It is easy to forget about the past and the people understood that focusing on what God had done in the past would also give them clarity about both the present and the future. Not only were they able to learn from the mistakes and sins of those who had gone before them, but they also were able to have “reference points” of how God was continually faithful to them.
 - What do you think it means to look at the past with the eyes of the present? How do you do this in your prayer life? In your daily life?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Nehemiah 9:16-31

- How would you characterize the story of Israel and their relationship to God that we read about in this section of Scripture? In what ways can you relate to being like Israel? How have you seen God's faithfulness constantly show up for you in spite of you?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice what the first part of verse 28 says regarding what happened when the Israelites were at peace? Why does this seem odd and what should this teach us today?
 - It would make sense that the Israelites would enjoy the peace of God and remember what it was like when they did not have it, thus causing them to be intentional in listening to exactly what God told them. However, this was the exact opposite of what happened. When the Israelites were at peace, they turned away from God. For us today, we should pay very close attention to this and know that it is actually easier to forget about God and be on our own agendas when things are going well. It's not that we shouldn't cherish these times and yet we should be asking ourselves how we continue to seek the heart and face of God over and above everything else, in good times and in challenging times.

Nehemiah 9:32-38

- What is interesting about what the people do not ask in their prayer and what can this teach us today?
 - The people do not ask for their situation to change. Rather, they ask God to remember them (verse 32). The people seem to be more concerned about drawing near to the heart and mind of God and being who He wants them to be. We frequently desire

to be rescued and taken out of challenging and difficult situations, even when they are self-inflicted. But what if we chose to focus on drawing near to God's heart and mind in the midst of the challenging and difficult situations rather than always seeking rescue from those situations?

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 10:28-39 & Nehemiah 12:27-47)



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 9 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

- What is something that you had to spend a great deal of time preparing for and what did you do in order to prepare?

- 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 9:1-38)

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 9:1-5

- Why do you think this chapter is included in the story of Nehemiah and the rebuilding of the wall?
 - In what ways do you need to be more intentional about not being complacent in your relationship with God?

- In what ways do you need to be more intentional in not taking God and His work for granted?

Nehemiah 9:6-15

- Oftentimes, our prayers are focused on how we want God to act in the present and in the future, but the first part of this prayer is mainly focused upon who God is and how He has acted in the past. Why?
 - What do you think it means to look at the past with the eyes of the present? How do you do this in your prayer life? In your daily life?

Nehemiah 9:16-31

- How would you characterize the story of Israel and their relationship to God that we read about in this section of Scripture? In what ways can you relate to being like Israel? How have you seen God's faithfulness constantly show up for you in spite of you?
- Notice what the first part of verse 28 says regarding what happened when the Israelites were at peace? Why does this seem odd and what should this teach us today?

Nehemiah 9:32-38

- What is interesting about what the people do not ask in their prayer and what can this teach us today? .

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.
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