

#12 "Open The Book"
Ready, Pray....Action!
A Study of the book of Nehemiah – Study Notes
Eastside Christian Fellowship: Nov. 11, 2007

Describe your personal respect for the Bible? How has it changed through the years?

Nehemiah is now moving from rebuilding the walls to rebuilding lives.

TEXT: NEHEMIAH 8:1-12

At the scene described in Neh. 8 we see the people express at least 5 emotions.

1. E _____ 8:3

- ✍ How eager are you to hear and ingest the word of God? What would help you?
- ✍ What are some practical steps to helping us be more excited about the Bible? It starts with desire!
- ✍ What does 2 Tim 3:16-17 say about Scripture? Do you agree with this verse?
- ✍ Are you open to hearing from the Lord no matter what the message?

2. R _____ 8:5

- ✍ What happened when Ezra "opened the book"?
- ✍ Why did that happen and what did it show about the people?

3. R _____ 8:6

- ✍ What were the actions of the people we see in verse 6?
- ✍ What brought this on? Was it appropriate? Do you ever feel like doing the same or something similar in corporate worship but feel like it would be inappropriate?

4. C _____ 8:9-10

- ✍ When did it appear that the people were really convicted?
- ✍ Is being convicted just a matter of guilt or is it something else?

5. J _____ 8:10-12

- ✍ What is it or who is it that brings you true joy in life?
- ✍ What does it mean that the joy of the Lord is your strength. (hint: the word strength means "stronghold" or "fortress").

- ✍ Read Jeremiah 15:16. What is the delight and joy for Jeremiah?
- ✍ How does joy become contagious? Read Neh. 8:12
- ✍ How can we practically share our joy in the Lord with others? Get input.
- ✍ Describe to your home group the joy that you find in the Lord?

In order to hold a high view of Scripture we need to have a high view of God and put our trust in His ways, His purposes and His power.

Read 1 Chron 16:23-34

- ✍ What is the theme of this Psalm of David found in 1 Chronicles?
- ✍ What is the difference between the "gods" and the "Lord"?
- ✍ As a group, come up with a description of God based on these verses.
- ✍ When you read through this what kind of emotion wells up within you?

Read through Psalm 119:89-136. Have everyone point out one truth from this passage that really stuck with them as they read through it.