

NEHEMIAH 8 / APRIL 12

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Read & Pray

This week's sermon is on Nehemiah 8. As a group, read Nehemiah 8:1–18. This passage highlights the people's hunger for God's Word and the central role it plays in revival. After reading, spend 60 seconds in silent prayer, then ask, *What stands out to you? What might the Spirit be pressing into your life?* Close by asking God for wisdom to respond.

Sermon Recap (to *apply*, not rehash the sermon)

Review the sermon with your group, highlighting the following:

- Revival begins with a deep hunger for God's Word: "Bring us the Book."
- True revival happens when God's Word is clearly understood and applied, not just heard.
- God's Word brings conviction of sin, but it is meant to lead us into joy, not despair.
- Real revival produces obedience and joy as people respond to God's Word with action, rooted in God's grace.

Group Discussion

1. In Nehemiah 8:1, the people ask for the Book of the Law. What does it practically look like to have a hunger for God's Word?
2. The sermon emphasized understanding the Word, not just hearing it. What helps you move from simply reading Scripture to truly understanding and applying it?
3. The people responded with conviction—mourning and repentance—but were then called into joy (vv.9–10). Why is it important that conviction leads to joy rather than staying in guilt?
4. "The joy of the Lord is your strength." How have you experienced joy rooted in God (not circumstances), and how does that strengthen you in daily life?
5. The people immediately obey what they discover in the Scriptures (vv. 13–18). What is one area of obedience God may be calling you to step into right now?

CHALLENGE

This week, intentionally create space to engage with God's Word daily—try to go 7 for 7! Ask God to grow your hunger for Scripture, and take one specific step of obedience based on what you read.

PRAYER

- Ask God to reveal areas where you feel stuck and to give you faith to trust Jesus for real healing and freedom.
- Pray that your identity would be rooted in Christ, not in your struggles, pain, or past.
- Ask God to deepen your relationship with him—not just outward religion—so that you experience the life and freedom Jesus offers.