

## Nehemiah: The Heart of a Builder

“Passion for God's Word ...Not just for Information but for Transformation”

Nehemiah 8

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True revival and transformation happens ...

1. When people hunger for and are gripped by the opened Word of God. 8:1-6
2. When weeping turns to joy as people understand and repent. 8:7-10
3. When the hearts of the fathers are turned to their children. 8:13
4. When people remember Gods redemption. 8:16-18

### *Religion*

If I obey, God will love me

What I do

About me

Appearing as good person

Ends in pride/despair

### *Gospel*

Because God loves me,  
I can obey

What Jesus has done

About Jesus

Honest repentance is key

Ends in humble joy

### Questions for Discussion:

1. In verses 1-4, how intense is the people's desire to hear the Law of God? Do you long for the Word of God? What's the difference between wanting to know about God and wanting to know God?.
2. Verses 5-8 pictures the people's response and reverence to the Word. How often do you open your Bible to get to know God? What is the highest authority in your life? What do you think keeps you from getting great joy out from the revelation of God?
3. What seems to be the natural response to hearing the Word in verses 9-12? What is your natural response to hearing the Word of God? Why can we have joy when we face conviction of sin and repentance?
4. How does God in verses 13-15 move the men to faith and action? For you men, in what specific ways does this move you personally in your faith and action?

The Feast of Booths was one of 3 holidays set out in Leviticus 23: 33 - 44. The point of the festival was to remind Israel of God's faithfulness during the exodus from Egypt. It's a reminder of the people's redemption after years of captivity and also the years of desert wanderings.

5. Verses 13-15 show the transforming power of Scripture and the response of the people to it. How has the authority of the Bible directed your life? What has God revealed to you through His Word recently? When the Spirit convicts you, what does that look like? How do you usually respond?
6. What moves you to obey God? (Duty, fear, other peoples perception of you, love, etc.) How might God want you to change the way you now respond to His Word?
7. Think about what was said about the Festival of Booths. In verses 16-18, think about why this festival would have significance for Nehemiah's people.
8. What's God saying, when He tells them to remember this holiday? What's God asking you to remember?
9. What has Jesus redeemed you from? How does remembering God's faithful acts help you?