



September 12th Discussion Guide

Courageous Faith - Nehemiah 1 & 2

This is a 6 week study from the Book of Nehemiah. Content for this discussion guide is based on the sermon, so participation in weekly worship will enhance the conversation on this topic. If you want to watch the sermon it can be viewed at [Sermons Archive - Good Shepherd Church Naperville](#)

Prayer

Open your group in prayer.

Icebreaker (10 min)

Share a moment or circumstance in life where you wish you could have a “do over”.



Discussion (45 min)

1. Read Nehemiah 1:1-4.
 - a. What do you learn about Jerusalem and what do you learn about Nehemiah from this passage?
 - b. Is there a people group or culture that God has put on your heart to mourn and pray for? Is the Christian church in this group?
 - c. How are you motivated to action by the plight of any failing group? Give examples of how you can help.
2. Read Nehemiah's prayer in 1:5-11 and note the 4 key sections. Then discuss:
 - a. Praise (1-5): How does starting a prayer with praise change the focus of your prayer?
 - b. Confession (6-7): Why is confession so often forgotten, yet so important?
 - c. Promises (8-10): What are some promises of God you need to remember so you can be encouraged and strengthened?
 - d. Request (11): We often pray for others, but do you pray for yourself? How can you be more bold in your requests of God?
3. Read Nehemiah 2:1-20:
 - a. What was Nehemiah risking by his behavior and request of the king?
 - b. List all the favor Nehemiah was granted in this passage.
 - c. Share a time when you had God's favor and things unexpectedly and miraculously went your way.

Application question: How can you and your group use Nehemiah's pattern for prayer this week? Commit to pray for these things for each other and yourselves. It took Nehemiah's team 52 days to rebuild the Jerusalem walls. Discuss the 4 practical ways to apply the message of Nehemiah as a Church:

- Pray 1 min/day for the next 52 days for the renewal, health and growth of the church.
- Read 52 chapters of the Bible in 52 days.
- Sponsor 52 children through Cheryl's/WGO/Compassion/World Vision.
- Serve 5200 hours as a church!

LORD, You hear and answer prayers! You are a God that keeps His promises! Help us rebuild our church, our community, our nation through prayer and action.