



October 3rd Discussion Guide

Covenant Renewal: Nehemiah 8 - 10

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)

Are you handy around the house or not? Share some home renovation highs and lows with your group.



Discussion (45 min)

1. Read Nehemiah 8. Ezra reads the Law of Moses before all the people.
 - a. How did the people respond to God's Word? How did Nehemiah and Ezra tell them they should respond? How do you respond?
 - b. What did the Levites (Priests) do after the Scriptures were read? How do you make sure you understand what you are reading in the Bible?
 - c. What did the people do after they heard the Law? (vs. 13-18) Share a time you changed or started a behavior or activity because of something you learned from Scripture.
2. Read Nehemiah 9:1-3.
 - a. What were the Israelites doing in these verses?
 - b. When you have heard God's Word and were convicted by it? What practice do you have in place for confession?
3. Read or Scan Nehemiah 9:4-37. The Levites recap the entire story of God's people and His faithfulness to them. (don't miss out on this!)
 - a. Praise God for some of the things He did in these verses for the Israelites!
 - b. How has God shown His faithfulness in your life?
4. Read Nehemiah 9:38 and 10:28-39.
 - a. What do the leaders do in verse 38?
 - b. Chapter 10 lists all that they commit to do to keep God's Covenant and "not neglect the house of our God". Discuss some of the items they include. How can you apply those items to your life today? (marriage, Sabbath, depts, tithing).

Application question: Once the Israelites heard God's Word, they celebrated, confessed their sins, remembered all that God had done, and renewed their commitment to His covenant. Now that you have heard God's Word, which of these do you need to do this week?

LORD, we have heard Your Word and we need a heart renovation! Show us where we need to celebrate, confess, and commit so we can become more like Christ and draw others closer to you!