



GETTING STARTED:

1. If you could instantly learn any skill, what would it be?

THE MESSAGE:

2. Reread Nehemiah 5:1-13. In Nehemiah chapter 4, we saw the people of Israel deal with the external threat of attack. Now the threat is internal. There are three specific problems—what are they?

3. How does Nehemiah respond when he hears the outcry of his people (look at how he **felt** and then what he **did**)?

4. What does Nehemiah do to resolve the problem?

5. What were Pastor Gabe's 3 points from this passage?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

6. What insight, principle or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.



A DEEPER DIVE...

7. Read through this passage again (Nehemiah 5:1-13) and look specifically at verse 9. Now read Leviticus 25:35-43 and then Psalm 51:4. In the Leviticus passage we see the specific law that was being violated. In Psalm 51:4 we see that our sin is not simply against other people but against God himself!

Have you ever considered that the issue of sin is that it is offensive to God? Does that affect how you look at your own sin? What is “fear of God” and what does it mean to us as Christ-followers?

MY LIFE:

8. Nehemiah was angry when he heard the outcry of the people, but in verse 7 we see that he took a moment and “took counsel with [him]self” before confronting anyone. When you hear something that makes you angry, do you lash out immediately or do you take a moment to think about your response? Does Nehemiah’s example affect how you might respond in the future?

9. Nehemiah “calls out” the nobles and officials who were causing the problems, and when he provides the solution, he leads by example (verse 10). Why is this important? Can you think of a time in your own life when you had to lead by example or were impacted by someone else who did?

10. In this passage, we see that having dealt with the external threat, now they have to deal with internal strife. As we seek to go from ruin to restoration in our own lives, there are always things that threaten to derail us. Sometimes they are external (other people or circumstances) and sometimes internal (our own habits, behaviors, mindsets, etc.). Which are you struggling with and how can we pray for you?
