



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

INSTEAD OF READING Nehemiah 3 entirely, just read vv. 1-5, 31-32 as a group.

SHARE words, phrases, truths that stuck out to you; any questions you have; new insights.

DISCUSS the passage together.

1/ Dr. Sandy Hotchkiss - an expert on Narcissistic Personality Disorder writes: "There is nothing new about narcissism... what is troubling about contemporary culture is the extent to which these personality flaws have received widespread stamp of approval. Narcissism is not just tolerated in our day and age, it is glorified." Does this strike you as true? How have you "glorified" these personality traits in your own life (and even ministry)?

2/ Why is it significant that v. 5 is recorded for us in God's Word?

3/ The Hebrew word for "stoop" is literally to "bend the neck." How is this Hebrew image evocative as you consider Jesus' ministry on earth?

4/ Read Genesis 12:1-2. What is the mission of God's people from the beginning?

5/ How do you see diverse gifts and callings on display in chapter 3? How can this happen in the church today?

6/ Read Ephesians 4:11-12 and Romans 12:3-8. And consider as a group how Nehemiah 3 applies today and at Hope church in particular.

6/ Discuss the truth that God saves us by stooping. Read Philippians 2:6 and following. *Pray* that God's stooping in Jesus would change the way you live this week.

APPLY the text to your life (these questions from Redeemer might help).

1/ How can I praise him?

2/ How can I confess my sins on the basis of this text?

3/ If this is really true, what wrong behavior, what harmful emotions or false attitudes result in me when I forget this?

4/ What should I be aspiring to on the basis of this text?

5/ God, why are you telling me this today?

PRAY together for the things you just shared, and also for anything else in your life.