

# NEHEMIAH 12-13

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SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

TO DISCUSS ON \_\_\_\_\_

*It is hard to believe our time together has come to a close. Our last two chapters could not be more opposite! We will go from incredible joy and celebration in Chapter 12 to disappointment, anger, and sin in Chapter 13. It is hardly a happy ending, but it is a very real one. It leaves us, in some respects, exactly where we stand in the Western world today. Confronted with our own need for Christ to redeem our sin, our heart condition that is prone to wander, and our ability to fall back into sin when we do not guard our hearts and minds against what the Lord tells us is not beneficial for us before Him. A sobering reminder of our ability to drift as a people, body, and even a nation.*

## PART 1: LIVING A LIFE THAT IS NOT MY OWN

TODAY MAKE A VALIANT EFFORT TO INTENTIONALLY PRACTICE DYING TO SELF

*Read MATTHEW 16:24-26 slowly. How did you last intentionally deny yourself and take up your cross?*

*What does LUKE 9:23-24 & JOHN 12:23-25 say has to happen to the grain of wheat before it can bear fruit?*

*1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20 says you have been bought at a price if you are a believer in Christ, and your life is no longer your own. What areas are you trying to do life your own way, or achieve your own glory?*

*What does PHILLIPIANS 3:10-14 instruct us to do?*

*Pray or speak the truth of GALATIANS 2:20 & 5:24 over yourself today. Death to ourselves is necessary that Christ may live fully in us!*

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**LORD, you showed us death to self is not timid, but active. By Your grace, let Your power be made perfect as we ACTIVELY surrender our selfishness and weakness unto You.**

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## PART 2: LIVING IN OUR NEW NATURE AND NOT OUR OLD NATURE

TODAY MAKE AN INTENTIONAL EFFORT TO PRACTICE PUTTING OFF YOUR OLD NATURE

*Write the new nature promises of the these old nature characteristics in* EPHESIANS 4:22-24

### OLD SELF

### NEW SELF

OLD PERSON

CORRESPONDING TO FORMER LIFE

CORRUPT THROUGH DESIRES

BASED ON DESIRES

*What does COLOSSIANS 3:8-9 say we are to put off?*

*What does COLOSSIANS 3:12 say we are to put on?*

*There are emotions, attitudes, and actions that mark us as believers in Christ, not because of what we can do, but because they are things that ONLY Christ can do in us! What are some ways Christ has revealed Himself through your new nature that you know you old nature could do or be?*

*What two things does HEBREWS 12:14 tell us we must make an effort toward in order to see Christ?*

*They honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me..... Have you entered into a heart knowledge with the Lord Jesus Christ? Are you in the practice of letting Christ give you a new mind, a new heart, and a new will as you put off your old nature and put on the newness available to you every single day through the blood of Christ?*

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**LORD, set the spirit of our minds free today from the deceit of this world, as we renew our minds in the truth that the old has gone, and the new has come!**

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## PART 3: LIVING A LIFE THAT PRESSES ON

TODAY MAKE AN INTENTIONAL EFFORT TO REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE WORKING FOR

*How does COLOSSIANS 3:23 say we are to work? Why?*

*What is true and proper worship according to ROMANS 12:1-2?*

*What does PHILIPPIANS 2:13-14 say for us to hold fast to? What else stands out to you in these verses?*

*There is a finish line to the work we have to do here. Write 2 TIMOTHY 4:7 below.*

*What does MATTHEW 25:21 & 23 say those who finish well hear and experience?*

*There is one last chapter I would like you to study. Slowly read all of REVELATION 21 absorbing each detail. I pray this study has enriched the glory that is to come in a personal way. Do you long to see those jasper walls as much as I do?*

*Meanwhile, there is so much work still to be done. May we press forward with perseverance, undistracted, full of faith, fearing God more than man, renewing our minds from the deceit of the world, empowered by the Spirit, aligned with truth, and powered by prayer, to accomplish a work that everyone around us can not help but know was accomplished with the help of our God!*

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**LORD, let John 17:4 be said of us:  
I have glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given me to do.**

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## PART 4: LIVING A LIFE THAT IS HONEST BEFORE GOD

TODAY MAKE AN INTENTIONAL EFFORT TO SIT AT THE FEET OF JESUS

*Think back on some of the most personal touches the Holy Spirit tended to through this study in your life. Set aside a half hour to journal an honest prayer to God and pray. This entire study would be all for nothing if we don't come away closer and more honest with Him at the end of it all. Let your thoughts flow freely, look for lies you have been believing, strongholds waiting to be fully surrendered, or unexpected words that reveal a new work. Let Jesus tend to your heart today. It has been a joy to journey with you all closer to Him.*

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**LORD, set the spirit of our minds free today from the deceit of this world, as we renew our minds in the truth that the old has gone, and the new has come!**