

## GODLY LEADERSHIP NEHEMIAH

**Pray** and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

**Read** the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

**Begin** to answer the questions using your own words.

*\*Questions are based on New International Version (NIV)*

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### Lesson 24 • Nehemiah 8 • April 6, 2011

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Nehemiah 7** has helped you?

#### **SECTION I: READ NEHEMIAH 7:73-8:8**

2. What is significant about the seventh month for Israelites? Read Leviticus 23:23-25, 27-28, and 34-36 for help.
3. According to **V2-3**, who gathered together at the assembly?
4. What was the significance of the assembly being made up of “men, women and all who could understand”?
5. In **V3**, what did the people do as Ezra read from the Book of the Law?
6. a) As you read Scripture or hear it taught, how attentive are you?  
  
b) What measures could you take to improve how you listen?
7. How did Ezra and the people respond to the reading in **V5-6**?
8. Share your own responses to the reading or hearing of the Bible either at church, Bible Study or when you are alone with the Lord.

9. What do you think was the role of the people mentioned in **V4** and **V7**?
10. Who is involved in the delivery, instruction and understanding of God's word in your life?

**SECTION II: READ NEHEMIAH 8:9-12**

11. Why do you think the people were weeping as they listened to the words of the Law?
12. a) Why were the people instructed not to grieve on this sacred day (**V9**)?
- b) Do you think it is OK to grieve on days sacred to the Lord? Why or why not?
13. a) According to **V12**, why were the people able to celebrate with great joy?
- b) What new understanding from Scripture has brought you great joy (particularly this year)?
14. a). What do you think "the joy of the Lord is your strength" means?
- b) How have you witnessed or experienced this joy in your own life?

**SECTION III: READ NEHEMIAH 8:13-18**

15. Who came back the next day and why according to **V13**?
  
16. What gem did they discover in the words of the Law?
  
17. According to **V16-17**, how did the people respond, and how did they feel? Why?
  
18. What new habit and revived tradition do you read about in **V17-18**?
  
19. As you consider your prayer requests for this week, to what new habit is God calling you regarding the reading of His Word? Write down your thoughts.

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**DIGGING DEEPER**

1. a) Many positive ripple effects came from the Word being read and explained to God's people in Nehemiah 8. No wonder they came back for more! Consider additional benefits that come with a regular intake of His Word:

Deuteronomy 32:47a \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 19:7-8 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 119:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 119:24 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 4:20-22 \_\_\_\_\_

Jeremiah 15:16a \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 22:29 \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

One you thought of \_\_\_\_\_

2. b) Which verse resonates most to you and why?

