

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)*

Lesson 25 • Nehemiah 9 • April 13, 2011

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Nehemiah 8** has helped you?

SECTION I: READ NEHEMIAH 9:1-6

2. In your own words, describe what the Israelites are doing in **V1-2**.
3. How do you think these actions prepare them for what they do in **V3**?
4. In **V3**, what do you find inspiring about the Israelites' actions, and what ripple effect might their actions have evoked in your own life?
5. In **V5-6**, what happened as a result of the prior Scripture reading, confession and worship in Nehemiah 8?
6. What attributes of God do you see in **V5-6**.

SECTION II: READ NEHEMIAH 9:7-31

7. What portions of Israel's history are covered in **V7-25**?

8. a) List the character qualities of God versus the character qualities of His chosen people from **V7-31**?

God's character qualities

People's character qualities

- b) Write at least one truth you learned from your comparison above.
- c) Which of God's character qualities bring the encouragement you need today and why?
9. a) In your opinion, if you were to describe the underlying cause of the repeated sin of the Israelites, what would you say it is?
- b) Recall a recent example of this sin in your own life; share the repercussions and highlight how God is redeeming it.

SECTION III: READ NEHEMIAH 9:32-37

10. In this section of Scripture, list ways the praying Israelites identified themselves with past actions of their community.
11. What area of your life needs a perspective shift from blaming or self-pity to a humble plea for God's help?
12. Summarize the Israelites current situation described in this section.

13. a) What is their prayer request in **V32**?

b) What could be an implied prayer request in **V37**?

14. What has your study of **V32-37** revealed about your current situation?

15. Formulate a prayer request for this week based on what you have learned from this prayer of the Israelites in Ch 9.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. a) Nehemiah 9 exposed a dark backdrop of the Jews sinful history against a wonderful view of their God who was described as a *“forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love”* (**V17c**). Look up each passage below and record the dark backdrop of each sinful situation in which almost identical descriptions of God are expressed:

Exodus 34:6 (ch.32-33 for context) _____

Numbers 14:18a (ch.13-14 for context) _____

Joel 2:13 (ch.2 for context) _____

Jonah 4:2 (ch.3 for context) _____

b) Write a truth about God you want to hold on to after looking up those verses.

c) Against a sinful backdrop in your own life, jot down the hope you draw from:

Psalm 86:5-6 _____

