

Nehemiah: Distraction From The Mission

Nehemiah 5

MAIN IDEAS

1. Discord and disunity lead to distraction from the mission
2. Distraction leads to the work stopping
3. Nehemiah uses his leadership and position to help the people

What is causing discord among the Jewish people in verses 1-5?

How does Nehemiah respond?

What law were the nobles and officials breaking, see Exodus 22:25?

What was the attitude of the lenders when confronted with their sin?

What could Nehemiah demand of the Jewish people according to verses 14-15? Why didn't he demand it?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How does Nehemiah's example of leadership compare to that of the nobles and officials in chapter 5? Why do you think the nobles did what was forbidden?

What was Nehemiah's focus when interacting with his people? What does his example teach us about how we are to interact with each other as Christians?

How do you receive correction? Are you able to be accountable to others? Why or why not?

In what ways does the mission suffer when we work against each other? Consider Nehemiah 5:9, John 15:8, Galatians 5:13-15 and Philippians 4:2-5.

Pray:

- Praise God for His righteous character and His ultimate example of righteousness, Jesus Christ.
- Confess to God any ways in which you have not obeyed His word when interacting with His people.
- Ask God for unity among His people for the sake of His mission.
- Ask God for humility in being accountable to others for the sake of unity.

GROUP RESPONSE

How can we at DEC imitate the nobles and officials in their repentance?

How can we imitate Nehemiah in caring for our brothers and sisters at DEC?

REPRODUCE

Is there a disagreement between you and another brother or sister? Go to them and seek reconciliation for the sake of the Gospel.

Is God calling you to use your position and influence to care for the needs of other brothers or sisters? How will you respond?

KEY VERSES

- Nehemiah 5

OTHER VERSES

- Exodus 22:25
- John 15:8
- Galatians 5:13-15
- Philippians 4:2-5