

Nehemiah: A Community of Confession

Nehemiah 9-10

MAIN IDEAS

In Nehemiah 8, the Israelites heard the scriptures. What three things did this prompt? See 8:9, 12, and 14-17.

What did they do later that month, according to Nehemiah 9:1-3? Why do you think they did this?

Read Nehemiah 9:5-35. What pattern of behavior did the Israelites' forefathers show? What was God's pattern of behavior?

What was the Israelites' current predicament, according to 9:36-37?

How did the Israelites respond to their predicament and God's faithfulness? See: 9:38 and 10:29.

What specific promises did they commit to in 10:30-39? Why do you think they chose these things?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How has God shown Himself faithful in your life?

When you read God's Word, how do you respond? Do you react like the Israelites did? Why or why not?

The Israelites made a covenant to obey God, not in a general way, but in specific ways. What specific areas of obedience can you commit to?

Pray:

- Praise God for the ways He has intervened in your life.
- Confess your sins to Him. Thank Him for His forgiveness.
- Ask Him for help to overcome these sins.
- Commit to a life of obedience to Him.

GROUP RESPONSE

The Israelites confessed their sins, not just their personal sins, but the sins of their nation—both in times past and in their current time. They also recognized God’s faithfulness to their nation throughout their history. Enter a time of prayer to confess the sins of your nation and to praise God for His faithfulness.

Will you make a covenant in your group to obey God in specific ways? If not, what is holding you back? If you will, put it in writing and sign it.

REPRODUCE

Look for opportunities to share the specific ways God has shown Himself faithful, either in your own life, in your family, church, or nation, or throughout history.

Ask others who may have done this study if their group made a covenant. If your group made a covenant, tell other groups about it.

KEY VERSES

- Nehemiah 8:9, 12, 14-17
- Nehemiah 9-10