

# Nehemiah: Prone to Wander

## Nehemiah 13

### MAIN IDEAS

Through the study of this book of Scripture, we've seen the people become committed to holiness and following God's teachings under the leadership of Nehemiah.

Compare and contrast the covenant promises in chapter 10 of Nehemiah to chapter 13.

When Nehemiah saw the state of people's faith and relationships with God, how did he respond? Was his response appropriate? Was it godly?

Nehemiah references multiple examples of when the people wandered and fell away from God. What does this teach us about the people of God at this time? What can it teach us about ourselves? What does this chapter teach us about God and His patience and faithfulness?

Why did the people ultimately fail to stay committed and thrive in their faith without Nehemiah's leadership?

### PERSONAL RESPONSE

What currently motivates your relationship with Jesus? Is it an internal or external motivation? Identify the specific elements that make it either internal or external.

What things in your life cause you to wander from the Lord? What may be distracting your faith and pulling you away from your relationship with Jesus?

In addressing the ease with which the people fell away from their faith, Nehemiah referenced past examples of this and essentially asked, "Haven't we learned yet?" Have you had this experience or are you currently experiencing it?

- If you have experienced this in the past, revisit the Scripture that helped speak truth into your situation and redirect you to focus on the Lord.
- If you are currently experiencing this, find Scripture that speaks truth into your

situation. How can you use that Scripture to redirect and refocus you on the Lord?

What is the current state of your faith? Have you remained steadfast like Nehemiah, or have you fallen astray like the people of Jerusalem? What in your life may be contributing to either situation?

Resolve in your heart to always pursue God, whether others encourage you to do so or not.

Pray:

- For wisdom and humility to examine the state of your relationship with Jesus
- For God's continued mercy, grace, and guidance
- For strength to overcome your sin and waywardness and to remain steadfast
- For obedience to God's Word

## GROUP RESPONSE

How can your group create a community of support, encouragement, and accountability to remain committed to following God's Word?

## REPRODUCE

If you are finding you continue to wander from living your life in obedience to Jesus, what is a first step you can take to redirect yourself? Share this first step with a brother or sister and ask for accountability as you take this first step and continue to plan further steps forward.

Do you know a brother or sister struggling to remain committed to their faith? How can you come alongside them in this journey?

## KEY VERSES

- Nehemiah 13