

Discussion Questions

Week of 5/12/24

Text: Nehemiah 7-8

Note: The Erie campus is focusing mostly on chapter 6 this week. Questions 4-5 from last week's set may be helpful for Erie LifeGroups this week.

Icebreaker: Do you prefer to read or to listen to (an audio Bible) the Bible? Why?

- **1.** Read Nehemiah 7-8 (You might want to skim 7:8-73!). What stands out to you from the sermon or from the chapters?
- **2.** How would you describe the attitude of the assembly toward God's Word in the first few verses of chapter 8?

Application: What are some potential advantages of reading or listening to God's Word in a community with other people rather than only in a personal, private setting?

3. The word "understand" is repeated throughout chapter 8. What steps are taken to help ensure that God's Word is understood by the people?

Application: Do you find the Bible to be simple to understand or is it a challenge? What kind of things help you better grasp what you read or hear?

4. Verses 9-12 describe how the people began to respond to what they understood. Why were they first grieved and what do you think it means that "the joy of the LORD is your strength" (v. 10)?

Application: How does joy in what God has done for us serve as a source of strength and protection for us in life?

5. Verses 13-18 describe what happened when the people celebrated the Feast of Booths. Why do you think this caused "very great rejoicing" for the people (v. 17)?

Application: How can or do we also remember and "reenact" God's deliverance and salvation?