



HOUSE GROUPS

HOUSE Groups: Discussion Questions:

Nehemiah 13:1-31

(Key Verses)

Nehemiah 13:30-31 - *30 Thus I cleansed them of everything pagan. I also assigned duties to the priests and the Levites, each to his service, 31 and [to bringing] the wood offering and the firstfruits at appointed times. Remember me, O my God, for good!*

(Nehemiah 13:1-3): Sanctified as Holy Before the Lord:

Question: Why does the decision to follow the Lord require a personal exodus from the ways of the world, and why is it that a person that is without God may never be counted as part of the people of God?

Question: What decision was laid before the Ammonites, and the Moabites when the people of Israel obeyed the commandment of the Lord to separate themselves from the mixed multitude of Israel?

Question: How did God preemptively protect His people from those that would curse them, and how did the curse from Moab through Balaam the prophet turn into a blessing?

(Nehemiah 13:4-14): Compartmentalized Sin:

Question: How does a defeated foe find shelter inside the house of the Lord — How does sin find a way to survive in our lives?

Question: From our text, what was removed from the storerooms to make room for Tobiah, and what do you think is the significance of this evil?

Question: How did the sin of Eliashib affect the others priests, and how did it affect the people?

Question: What did Nehemiah do to fix the problem with Tobiah, and how does his solution set a precedent for how we should deal with sin?

(Nehemiah 13:15-22): The Control of Materialism:

Question: How did the people of Jerusalem profane the Sabbath, and what was the root cause of their sin?

Question: Why do you think it is that materialism has such a power over people's lives, and what can you do to break it's control over you?

Question: How did Nehemiah help the people of Jerusalem with honoring their commitment to the Lord as well as defending them against those that would seek to lead them astray from God's commandments regarding the Sabbath?

(Nehemiah 13:23-31): Cleansing for Sexual Impurity:

Question: Why did the Lord command His people to not take wives from the foreign nations, and what were the spiritual consequences for their disobedience to that command?

Question: What problems do you see presenting themselves in a relationship where one spouse is a Christian, and the other spouse is not?

Question: How did the enemy seek to infiltrate the people of God through relationships, and how are we to guard ourselves against those that influence us in a way that is contrary to God's Word?

Question: How can we cleanse ourselves from sin, and what are the practical steps we can take as preventative measures against repeating our past mistakes?