

SESSION 5



NEHEMIAH 5:1-19

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(Questions written by Tim Wiebe)

READ NEHEMIAH 5:1-19

Chapter 5 draws attention to the internal threats jeopardizing the mission, within the believing community: injustice and lack of love for others. In the midst of this, Nehemiah stands for justice (5:6-11) and sets an example of personal integrity (e.g. 5:15, 18).

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. In Nehemiah chapters 4 and 6, external opposition threatens the work Nehemiah is doing. What is the internal opposition (threats within the community) that Nehemiah faces now in chapter 5?

2. How does Nehemiah respond when he learns about this? And how does he address it?

3. Summarize what you learn about Nehemiah in 5:14-18.

4. Look closely at 5:15. What motivates Nehemiah to act differently, and live with integrity?

5. Why is the personal integrity and example of a leader so important?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** Nehemiah 5 teaches us that opposition isn't only external; it can also come from within a community. What bad practices feed internal strife within a community?
- 2.** What healthy practices cultivate a vibrant, godly community?
- 3.** Nehemiah 5 focuses specifically on issues of justice in the community. What injustices exist in your sphere of influence, that you can address and help correct?
- 4.** In what specific ways can you personally help advance healthy practices in your family? Neighborhood? Community Group? Church family?
- 5.** In Nehemiah 5:15, we read that Nehemiah acts differently than those around him, and with great integrity, because of "reverence for God." How does reverence for God motivate us to live differently?
- 6.** What are 1-2 areas of your life where you can grow in personal integrity and practical godliness, because of reverence for God? What can steps of growth look like this coming week?



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