

Committed to the Task Discussion Questions

Nehemiah 7-8

Opening the Discussion

1. What was the best thing that happened to you this past week?
2. Reflecting on the weekend sermon, what grabbed your attention?
3. What's one thing from the message you hope we talk about as a group?

Growing Deeper

1. Nehemiah realized what is built needs to be guarded. What has God built into your life you need to make sure is protected?
2. This section of Nehemiah lists names of God's covenant community. Why is it important to be a part of such a group and what are some of the benefits? What might be some reason that we are not concerned that others are a part of this community?
3. Pastor Brian said, "God uses the giving of His people to accomplish His purposes." We can come up with many reasons not to do so. What are some that come to your mind? Name some truths that nullify those reasons.
4. One of the ways to gain understanding of God's Word is to listen attentively as the people did in this passage of Scripture. What gets in the way of this and how do we become consistent with this skill?
5. Three misconceptions about our interaction with the Bible were given. They are: it's too confusing to read, it's too boring to study, and it's impossible to apply. Which do you struggle with and what might you do to overcome this problem?
6. What do you feel is the key (or keys) to understanding the Bible?
7. What are some values for being willing to give time and effort in working through struggles to absorb God's Word?
8. Have you ever had a time in your life where your love for God had slowly burned out? What did you experience during that time in your life? What brought you back to God?

Words to Actions

1. Though the Bible urges us not to live in the past, Ezra urged a short time of building "booths" as a reminder of God's deliverance. Why is it beneficial to remember and share how God has changed your life?
2. Share an illustration of a blessing in your life that is a direct result of allowing God to influence you.
3. The "booths" were also a reminder that life here is temporary. Why is this a healthy precept to remember?
4. With regard to giving toward God's work, "no one can do everything but everyone can do something." Why is this true and how can this be used in our faith, family, and future components of the Grow Time Initiative?