



NEHEMIAH

Re: BUILD
Re: NEW
Re: FORM

Re: GROUP

Discussion Guide: Small Group Questions – RE: Returning to the Wall

Read Nehemiah 12:27–43
Hebrews 12:1–2, 14–17

1. Preparation & Purification

- In Nehemiah 12:30, the Levites purified themselves before purifying the people and the wall. Why do you think it was important that they began with themselves?
- How does the idea of “personal purification” apply to our spiritual preparation for worship today? What does that look like in practice for you?

2. Holiness Before God

- Hebrews 12:14 says, “Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.”
 - What does it mean to “strive” for holiness?
 - What are some things that can make holiness difficult in your week-to-week life?

3. Celebration & Worship

- In Nehemiah 12, the dedication involved choirs, instruments, sacrifices, and great joy. Why do you think joy and thanksgiving were central to this celebration?
- When you think of your own worship—on Sundays or in daily life—what tends to fuel your joy? What tends to drain it?

4. God’s Role in Our Joy

- Nehemiah 12:43 says, “God had made them rejoice with great joy.” How have you experienced God as the *source* of your joy rather than your circumstances being the source?

5. Living Prepared for Worship

- You mentioned in the sermon that some people approach Sunday worship as a “weekly fill-up,” while others come prepared to celebrate God’s faithfulness from the week.
 - Which of those mindsets is more natural for you?
 - What is one intentional step you could take this week to “prepare” yourself before coming to worship?

6. Looking to Jesus

- Hebrews 12:1–2 calls us to “lay aside every weight and sin” and “look to Jesus.”
 - What’s one “weight” that tends to slow down your walk with Christ?
 - What might it look like for you to “fix your eyes” on Jesus in that area this week?