

NEHEMIAH



Re: BUILD
Re: NEW
Re: FORM

Re: GROUP

Discussion Guide: Small Group Discussion Questions

Theme: Review and Renew – Remembering God’s Faithfulness and Our Response

Text: Nehemiah 9:5b-38

Warm-Up

1. When you think of “renewal,” what comes to mind? Is it refreshing, sobering, or motivating?
2. Have you ever looked back over a season of your life and been surprised by how God was working, even in times of failure or wandering?

God’s Character and Israel’s Story

3. Read Nehemiah 9:6. Why is it important that the people began their praise by declaring God as Creator?
 - How does remembering God as Creator shape the way we approach worship or view our place in the world?
4. Throughout this chapter, the people review God’s acts of mercy, justice, and grace. Which of these stood out most to you?
 - His calling of Abraham (vv. 7-8)?
 - His deliverance from Egypt (vv. 9-11)?
 - His provision in the wilderness (vv. 15-21)?
 - His forgiveness despite rebellion (vv. 17, 31)?
5. Nehemiah 9:17 describes God as “ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.”
 - How have you experienced these traits of God personally?
 - Why do you think they kept repeating this truth about God?

Patterns of Sin and Mercy

6. The people confess how their ancestors “acted presumptuously” and “would not obey” (v. 16).
 - Why is it necessary to name both God’s goodness and our sin when seeking renewal?
7. The book of Judges is summarized as a cycle of sin, oppression, crying out, and deliverance.
 - Where do you see that cycle repeating in your own life or in today’s culture?
 - What breaks that cycle?

Reflection and Response

8. In Nehemiah 9:33-35, the people acknowledge God's faithfulness and their own failure.
 - How does confession like this prepare us for real change and renewal?
9. Read Nehemiah 9:38. The people respond by making a covenant in writing.
 - What might a modern expression of "renewing our covenant" with God look like?
 - Is there a step of commitment, obedience, or return to God that you feel led to take?

New Covenant Reflection

10. The same God who was faithful to Israel has been faithful to us in Christ.
 - How does reviewing Israel's history give deeper meaning to what Jesus has done for us?
 - How does it inspire gratitude or a desire to "stand up and bless the Lord" (v. 5)?

Closing Prayer Prompt

Take time in your group to pray:

- Thank God for specific ways He has been faithful in your life.
- Confess areas where you have drifted or grown complacent.
- Ask God for a spirit of renewal, rooted in His mercy and love.