

Rebuild

Week 1 – June 13/14

Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-11

Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!

Share: This is the season to honor the graduates in our community. Share one fond memory you have of graduation (it could be high school, college, 5th or 8th grade).

Read Nehemiah 1:1-11 together: Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

Discuss the following context:

Can you remember a time when you had a dream and you had no idea how it was going to become a reality? Today we are talking about change; and many times, change starts with someone who has a dream. A huge theme in the story of Nehemiah is change.

There is a desire in all of us to see positive, meaningful and lasting change in our world. It is the reason people are actively protesting and demanding justice for our black community across our nation right now. This is the heart of the gospel: the act of restoring something to fullness after it was harmed. This is why Jesus came. But change is hard and if we want lasting change, we need God's help. We see this play out in the life of Nehemiah – God changed him and then used him to change the lives of others.

Share your thoughts about the following questions:

1. Nehemiah was moved to the core and his heart began to burn for change to happen. It consumed him, he had to do something; he felt a holy discontent. Has God placed in you a holy discontent? What change is God wanting you to be a part of?
2. Nothing changes in a person's life unless they get mad about where they are. They get to the "no more" point. Share a time in your life when you got to a 'no more' point. Was it something God inspired you to do or self-initiated?
3. Nehemiah started with prayer, and he prayed for 4 months! As a result God produced a heart change in him. God transformed Nehemiah internally. Are you willing to let God change you first?

Pray together: Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Prayer reminds us of who God is. Prayer reminds us of who we are. Thank God that our heart comes into greater alignment with His heart and there is a renewed commitment to seek God's agenda when we pray.

Question for Kids and Families: Nehemiah 1:5-6 says "O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his promise of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands, listen to my prayer!" Is there anyone who needs your prayers today?