

RISE UP & BUILD

A SERIES ON THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 10

WELCOME.

WORSHIP.

Sing: *GREAT THINGS*

WORD.

Introduction: In response to the Word, the people make a formal covenant with God, committing to live according to the Word and to separate themselves from idolatry.

Scripture: Nehemiah 9:38–10:39

The Sunday sermon outline:

- 1. The covenant of holiness belongs to God and His people.**
- 2. The covenant of holiness begins at the highest levels of leadership of the community.**
- 3. The covenant of holiness beckons commitment on a personal level.**
- 4. The covenant of holiness broadly changes every aspect of our life.**

1. Read Nehemiah 9:38–10:27. The covenant renewal is sealed by 84 people, in four different groups. According to the text, what are those four groups of people? Why do you think it was important to have representatives from those four groups publicly recommit to God?

2. The people renew their covenant with God as an active act of obedience and repentance. What do you think it means to repent of sin? For help, read Luke 15:1–32 or Acts 3:17–26.

3. Even if it wasn't a formal public recommitment, has there ever been a time in your life when you recommitted to obeying God and His Word? Maybe this came after a season of sin or faithlessness. If this hasn't been a part of your story, what has it looked like to regularly confess and repent of sin in your life?

4. Read Nehemiah 10:28–39 and Nehemiah 9:26 and 29. From these verses, what do you see the people recommitting to in Nehemiah 10:28–29? What is the connection between returning to God's Word and returning to God Himself? Discuss. What would it look like if churches and individuals regularly recommitted to this today?

5. Notice the communal language throughout this passage. We. Us. Our. This was a communal commitment, not an individual one. What about us? What do you think about the idea of belonging to and participating in covenant community? What does that mean? What does that look like in your life to be a covenant member of a church?

WORK.

- In closing, are there any areas of your life right now where you may be living contrary to God's Word? Be honest. If you haven't already, are there any people from your church you can or should confess that to?
- What would it look like to pursue obedience to God's Word with other people, not just by yourself? Consider reaching out to some of those