**Leaders Who Lead Well**

*Nehemiah 8:13-10:29*

They remember 3 things

**I. Remember God’s Word is powerful**

**Hebrews 4:12**—*For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

A. Apply Biblical truth straightaway

**Nehemiah 8:15**—*So they proclaimed and circulated a proclamation in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, “Go out to the hills, and bring olive branches and wild olive branches, myrtle branches, palm branches and branches of other leafy trees, to make booths, as it is written.”*

B. Rejoice while doing what it say

**Nehemiah 8:17**—*The entire assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in them. The sons of Israel had indeed not done so from the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day. And there was great rejoicing.*

C. Read God’s Word daily

**Nehemiah 8:18**—*He read from the book of the law of God daily, from the first day to the last day. And they celebrated the feast seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly according to the ordinance.*

D. Grieve and confess sin

**Nehemiah 9:1-3**—*Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the sons of Israel assembled with fasting, in sackcloth and with dirt upon them. The descendants of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. While they stood in their place, they read from the book of the law of the Lord their God for a fourth of the day; and for another fourth they confessed and worshiped the Lord their God.*

**Ephesians 5:15-17***—Therefore ]be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,* ***16****making the most of your time, because the days are evil.* ***17****So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

**II. Remember God’s faithfulness is good**

A. God’s character and goodness prompts our worship

**Nehemiah 9:5-6**—*Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah, said, “Arise, bless the Lord your God forever and ever! O may Your glorious name be blessed And exalted above all blessing and praise! “You alone are the Lord. You have made the heavens, the heaven of heavens with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them and the heavenly host bows down before You.*

B. Our unfaithfulness (both historically and today) convicts our hearts

**Nehemiah 9:16-17a**—*But they, our fathers, acted arrogantly; they became stubborn and would not listen to Your commandments.*

C. His justice is true and ought to humble us

**Nehemiah 9:33**—*However, You are just in all that has come upon us; For You have dealt faithfully, but we have acted wickedly.*

D. If we are faithless, He remains faithful

**Nehemiah 9:17b**—*…they refused to obey, and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them; but they stiffened their necks and determined to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and you did not forsake them.*

**2 Timothy 2:11-13**—*The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.*

E. He gives us His Spirit

**Nehemiah 9:20a**—*You gave your good spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and gave them water for their thirst.*

**Nehemiah 9:30a**—*Many years you were patient with them, and warned them by your spirit through your prophets; yet they would not listen. Therefore you handed them over to the peoples of the lands.*

**Galatians 5:16**—*Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

**Galatians 5:25**—*If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.*

**III. Remember your promise is a promise to obey**

**Isaiah 50:10**—*Who is among you that fears the Lord, That obeys the voice of His servant, That walks in darkness and has no light?
Let him trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.*

A. Make commitments and keep them

**Nehemiah 9:38-10:1**—*Because of all this we make a firm agreement in writing, and on that sealed document are inscribed the names of our officials, our Levites, and our priests. Upon the sealed document are the names of Nehemiah the governor, son of Hacaliah, and Zedekiah…*

B. Seek ways to be accountable

**Nehemiah 10:28-29**—*The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all who have separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to adhere to the law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all who have knowledge and understanding, join with their kin, their nobles, and enter into a curse and an oath to walk in God’s law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord our Lord and his ordinances and his statutes.*

C. Ask God to allow you to be faithful

**Nehemiah 13:31**—*…and I provided for the wood offering, at appointed times, and for the first fruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.*