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## RECAP

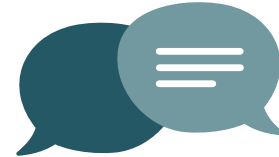
This week, Pastor Chris emphasized the importance of reading God's Word and how when we truly open our hearts, souls, and strength to the Word of God, renewal is possible.

- **Icebreaker Question:** What is the biggest renovation or remodel project you've ever helped with or undertaken? What was the result?

## DISCUSS

Before you begin, open with prayer and read through Nehemiah 8. Ask your group to make any observations on Nehemiah's action, attitude, or how he approaches this tough circumstance.

1. In our text, it is clear it is the people who desire to learn from the Book of the Law. What are the main contributors to your desire to read, reflect, or understand scripture?
2. In this passage, we see the people respond to scripture intellectually, emotionally, and physically. Have you ever responded to scripture like this? What passages have motivated you personally?
3. Read Nehemiah 8:10 again. What would classify as the joy of the LORD? How can you draw strength from that?
4. Why do you think rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem led these people to seek spiritual renewal? At this time, why should we as a people or church be seeking renewal?
5. Nehemiah continually urged the people to choose joy, why do you think that is? What is your natural disposition?



In this session, encourage the members of your group to share a pivotal moment in their faith journey! While the discussion questions are important, make sure to find ways to learn each other's stories or become more acquainted with one another! Having people share moments from their lives is critical to having a meaningful study! Look at this list below for guidance or possibilities!

### Potential Pivotal Moments:

1. When did you begin to follow Jesus?
2. Have you been baptized?
3. Have you ever been on a mission trip?
4. What got you plugged into your church?
5. Have you experienced a hardship or difficulty that caused you to lean more on Christ?

## CLOSE

As you close this session, have everyone in the group share an area of their life that they'd like to be more joyful about and a person in their life that they'd like to be more loving toward. Encourage people to think of someone outside their family. As a group, try to brainstorm ways that you can love others! Then close by praying over all these things!

