



Message Discussion Questions

2/26/2023

SERIES: Jesus Story

WEEK:#8

MESSAGE: Nehemiah

COMMUNICATOR: Pastor Nate Hartman

CENTRAL TEXT/S: Nehemiah 13

CHECKING IN: How was your week? What was one of the highlights? Share wins (things God did that moved his mission forward and you closer to Jesus). What did you put into practice from last week's discussion?

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS: Choose questions that will work best for your group. Feel free to add to or ask a question in a different way than is written.

1. Share a "renting" horror story, negative dorm room experience or tenant nightmare story.
2. Everything is great in your life...until it is not. Have you ever been part of something that sounded so good, but ended up not really being a great experience? Please share.
3. Read Nehemiah 8:5-12; 9:1-3. What is taking place? What is the response of the people as Ezra reads the book of the law? How do you respond in your time reading God's word?
4. Do you have an indicator, a gauge, in your life that tells you how you are doing spiritually? What is it and what has it told you lately? How do you respond when the indicator reveals something positive in your life? How do you respond when the indicator is more convicting in nature?
5. Share an example when a small compromise ended up being a major difficulty or challenge in your life?
6. Revisit Hebrews 12:1-2. To fix our eyes on Jesus, we need to remove those things that get in our way of following him. What area has God brought to your attention that he wants you to remove? What do you need to add to your life that will help catapult you forward in the things of God? If there is an area that has you constantly tangled or stuck, ask your group to pray for you for the "eviction" of that area.
7. This week Pastor Nate said, "*we don't naturally drift toward health, we do the opposite*". So let's change it a bit and discuss the thought, "*we don't naturally drift toward Jesus, if we're not intentionally prioritizing Jesus, we'll unintentionally experience spiritual atrophy*". How have you seen this in society? What is our hope when we intentionally follow Jesus?
8. Read James 4:17. How do you interpret this verse? Why do you think this verse is never seen on a bumper sticker, rarely discussed or practiced?
9. Are you allowing any thoughts, habits or lies to be a "room renter" in your life? Is there a reason we constantly hold onto these "room renters"? What can we do to get rid of them? What can we do to fill those "rooms" in our lives with the things of God?

TRUTH DEMANDS A RESPONSE! What is one action step you will take this week in response to our discussion? Be specific. Try attaching a name and date to your action step.

1. _____.

WANT TO GROW DEEPER? We have created some resources to help you grow. Check out and explore the *Experience God* page. Go to canvas.church/experience-god or *Experience God* on the App.



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GROUP PRAYER OPTIONS:

- **Prayer Question:** "What's going on in our lives that we can involve Jesus?"
- **Ask:** What was one praise and one challenge you experienced this week? Celebrate the praises and pray for the challenges.
- **Ask** if anyone has a need or knows of a need, you can also offer "unspoken" prayer requests.
- **Pray for the person on your right**, *it can be out loud or in silence*, if in silence nudge the person next to you letting them know you are done.
- **Prayer Clusters:** Groups of two or three (by gender) and share your week together. Pray together and for each other. Send them a text, or leave a message letting them know you have prayed for them this week.
- **Have someone in your group keep an active list of the requests and the answers for both the updates and to celebrate the answers.**

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping Life Groups benefit from the weekend message? We have a team for you! Canvas members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email rickz@canvas.church