Lessons from Nehemiah!

Part 4 "Justice and Unity!"

"We are meant to show the world generosity and care!"
"Synergy thrives in an environment of unity; but dies in an environment of division"

Nehemiah chapter 5, Exodus 22:25, Duet 15:1-7, James 2:14-17, Matthew 18:15

Opening Question(s): Do you believe there is economic injustice in this country? Explain! When it comes to division in in people groups what tends to be the cause and what might lead to a solution?

Study/Reflection:

- 1. Read Nehemiah 5:1-13 What is the great outcry all about?
- 2. What needs are going unmet? What do you think brought upon the crisis.
- 3. How does Nehemiah respond to the people who are crying out? And why does he get so angry at the nobles and officials? *Dueteronomy 15:1-7*
- 4. How does he handle the crisis? In what ways does he act wisely and generously?
- 5. In light of this passage and passages like James 2:14-17, in what ways can you be more generous and giving especially in light of the upcoming holidays? What impact might caring for others have on others (who are not christ followers)? Those being served? The ones serving?
- 6. Read Nehemiah 5:6-7 once again. When it comes to division and conflict how is Nehemiah's response a great example to follow? (He did 2 things...)
- 7. According to Matthew 18:15, how should you handle any conflict that is between you and someone else? What if you overhear someone complaining to someone else about something or someone else, what might the right response the that be?

Application/Putting into Action:

- Spend some time in prayer as a group about the topics discussed. Spend some time throughout the week to pray for any steps that you need to take in justice and protecting unity in your marriage, family or church?
- Love the one in front of you? How can you be the gospel this week to those closest to you?
- Small Group challenge: Whom can you serve as a group over the next few weeks?