

Change ^{is the} Point

Change is the Point: Week 6 The Character of a Culture Changer: Nehemiah 5

Joel Engle, February 24, 2019

Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through “observation” and “reflection”, leaving enough time for “discussion” and “surrender.”

Scripture Reading

Read aloud the passage for this week’s study, slowly enough for everyone to enjoy. Re-read as you discuss the questions.

Nehemiah Chapter 5

This week read the entire chapter, Nehemiah 5, before answering questions below.

Text not included in these notes because of the length of this chapter.

ChangePoint uses the English Standard Version (ESV) during Sunday messages.

Observation: *What does this scripture passage say?*

1. Describe what life is like for the people of Israel in Chapter 5.
2. What does Nehemiah do in response to what was happening?

Reflection: *What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?*

3. What pleasures in life or distractions of culture tie up our attention and focus, numbing our affection toward God?
4. Nehemiah “emptied himself” to serve and lead his people instead of using his position of leadership to elevate his name and reputation. The apostle Paul gives us a clear picture of what it means to “empty ourselves.” Philippians 2:3-7 says,

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

What does it look like for you to empty yourself as God’s servant?

Discussion: *Talking together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.*

5. Describe a time in your life when you lovingly confronted a fellow brother or sister in Christ over a sin issue or when you were lovingly confronted about sin. What was the result?
6. 1 Peter 4:8 says, *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.* What makes it difficult to overlook, absorb, or “love through” the sins of others?

Surrender: *Responding to God’s voice.*

7. A What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

We’re here!

We would love to hear about how things are going in your small group!

Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.

Contact Community & Groups Pastor, Scott Smith, (907) 646-4883, scott@changepointalaska.com