

# REBUILDING THROUGH THE WORD

## NEHEMIAH 8

### I. GOD'S BOOK: A faithful church calls for \_\_\_\_\_ book.

*And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate.  
And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. v. 1*

### II. GOD'S PULPIT-PREACHING PASTOR: A faithful church sits \_\_\_\_\_ the pulpit-preaching of God's Word by His \_\_\_\_\_ shepherd!

*And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. v. 4a*

*And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people,  
for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. v. 5*

*They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly,  
and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. v. 8*

### III. GOD'S PEOPLE: A faithful church gathers ready to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word in the world.

*And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate.  
And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. v. 1*

*And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men  
and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. v. 3*

*And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people,  
"This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law.  
Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready,  
for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."  
So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved."  
And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing,  
because they had understood the words that were declared to them. vv. 9-12*

# REBUILDING

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

## HOME GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Describe a time when you experienced conviction and grief from a truth you read or heard in the Scriptures.

2. Read Nehemiah chapter 8. When we mourn or grieve, it's usually over a loss. What did the Israelites realize they had lost when they heard God's Word? Why was it important that they recognize this loss?

3. Why do we need to understand God's Word? When has understanding the Word particularly touched you or helped you in a powerful way?

4. Nehemiah and the Levites convinced the people to stop mourning and start celebrating. Why is it as wrong to mourn when God has forgiven us as it is to rejoice when sin has conquered us? Have you ever struggled to rejoice after receiving God's forgiveness? If you have, what has helped you to overcome this?

5. What thoughts from this sermon were especially encouraging or helpful to you?

6. If you delight in God's Word, He will delight in you and share His best blessings with you. Do you delight in God's Word? Would you rather have God's Word than food (119:103; Lk 10:38-42) or sleep (Ps 119:55, 62, 147-148) or wealth (vv. 14, 72, 137, 162)?

"Suppose you had to use John Wycliffe's Version of the Bible, the oldest version in English. How much of this passage would you understand if you did not already know it from another version?"

*'Alle ye that traueilen & teen chargid come to me & I schal fulfille you. take ye my yok on you & lerne ye of me for I am mylde and meke in herte: and ye schulen finde rest to youre soulis for my yok is softe & my charge liyt.'*

[At that time] The common people didn't own copies of the Scriptures, so they were thrilled to hear the Word of God. The word *distinctly* in Nehemiah 8:8 means that the law was explained to the people in a language they could understand. The Word was translated and expounded in such a way that the people were able to apply it to their own lives. The Hebrew language would have undergone some changes since the days when Moses wrote the Pentateuch, and the everyday conversational Hebrew of the people would be different in some ways from ancient Hebrew. We need new translations of the Bible, not because the Bible changes, but because our language changes. Wycliffe's translation goes back about 600 years (1382), but between Moses' writing of the law and Ezra's reading of the law, a thousand years had elapsed!"

WARREN WIERSBE

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of *The Source* at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

**TEXT "CCBCONNECT" TO 94090 FOR NEXT STEPS.** If you've been worshipping with us for a while, we want to help you take the next step of learning more about Christ Chapel and connecting in community. Text "CCBConnect" to 94090 and we'll send you ways to start this week.

**EXPERIENCE MORE OF CHRIST CHAPEL AT CONNECTING POINT NEXT SUNDAY.** If you're new-ish to Christ Chapel, Connecting Point is the perfect place to start putting roots down and learning more about us and how we're here to help you grow in your faith. Plus, you'll get to know other people new to Christ Chapel as well. The March class will meet in person, starting Sunday, March 7 at 9 a.m. Learn more and sign up at [www.ccbcfamily.org/cp](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/cp).

**TAKE THE WELLNESS SURVEY AND HELP US PREP FOR A NEW SERIES.** Along with spiritual health, your mental, physical and emotional wellness are incredibly important to us. Our teaching team is prepping for an upcoming series on those topics, and we'd love your feedback as we plan. Take the anonymous survey at [www.ccbcfamily.org/wellness](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/wellness) and let us know how we can best serve you with these topics.

**SAVE FRIDAY, MARCH 12 AS YOUR NEXT DATE NIGHT.** It may be the end of February, but we're already looking forward to a new date night experience! All the details for a March date, including a recipe, activity, intentional conversation starters and prayer time, will be available at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events) starting Wednesday, March 10.

**PARTNER WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ON SUNDAYS.** We have loved welcoming back more and more families to Children's Ministry on Sundays, and we're not done yet! We're looking for leaders to partner with us. Will you help us open more classrooms so kiddos can learn about the God who loves them? Email the Children's Ministry team at [childrens@christchapelbc.org](mailto:childrens@christchapelbc.org) to sign up.

**LEARN SOMETHING NEW WITH THE CCG.** The Center for Christian Growth (CCG) is our home for all the classes and spiritual growth experiences that Christ Chapel offers. This week you can listen and learn about toxic emotions, relationships, leadership, the Old Testament and more. Find a class at [www.ccbcfamily.org/ccg](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/ccg).

**READ THROUGH PSALMS WITH US.** Leading up to Easter, we're reading through the psalms together to remember God is with us in the ongoing challenges of this year. You can join us this week—just look for the plan, "God Is With Us," on the Christ Chapel app.

### LOOKING FOR UPDATES AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR YOUR WEEK?

Christ Chapel has its own Facebook page, @ChristChapelBibleChurch, where we post updates, events and encouragement for your week. It's a community we love and think you will, too, so follow the page today. You can also join us on Instagram, @christchapelbiblechurch.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—just text "CCBCFW" to 77977 to get started.

