

Small Group Study Guide

“The Power of Personal Testimony”

Nehemiah 2:11-20

Pastor Mark Kilcup

Relate

Take turns in your group discussing a situation where you had really good news that you had to keep quiet for a period of time. Was it hard? Why? How did people respond when the information was free to be shared?

Review

Read Nehemiah 2:11-20 together.

Explore, through discussion and the story of Nehemiah thus far, what Nehemiah may have been thinking and feeling about the situation and what God was going to do?

In verse 17 Nehemiah says, “You see the trouble WE are in...” What is the significance of this statement for Nehemiah and those who will participate in the rebuilding?

This was not the first attempt at rebuilding. In Ezra 4:1-5, 6, 18-24 three kings ruled over this struggle. What is the mindset of the people as they would listen to the plan for rebuilding? What is different about Nehemiah and his plan?

Dig

Luke 9:57-62 and 14:28-32 tell of Jesus’ words to those who wanted to follow him. What was his challenge to them? What does this mean for us today?

Read 1 Peter 2:12-19 and discuss the questions below:

-What were we called to?

-How should we respond to criticism? (Attitude and action)

-What is the believer’s hope in dealing with and responding to criticism?

Pastor Mark referred to Ephesians 2:10. What is a good work? Is it possible for us to miss doing a good work that God has for us to do? Any consequences here?

How do these truths relate to our vertical relationship with God and our horizontal relationship with people, places, and things?

Live

Continue praying for God to work through our efforts on compassion weekend. Pray specifically that we would be able to share the gospel.

Pray and determine a rebuilding goal or plan that your group will work toward over the coming weeks or months. i.e. personal spiritual goals, neighborhood project, meal with unbelievers, etc.