

LG | Guide

[Nehemiah 5]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

Prepare our minds to receive God's word.

- How was everyone's week? [Does everyone know each other? Any introductions needed?]
- Anything new in your lives'? Are there any burdens we need to pray for or victories we can celebrate together?
- When reflecting on the message this past Sunday, what most resonated with you?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text. If you do not have a Bible, your leader can provide one.

1. Read our primary text. What appears to be happening in Nehemiah chapter 5? What is the outcry of the people?
2. What is Nehemiah's response to the people? At the root, why is Nehemiah so angry? Someone read Deuteronomy 23:19-20.
3. We are not under the Mosaic Covenant, which means we are not under the ordinances in the Torah of Moses in regard to money. How does the Bible counsel us now? See below:
 - a. The Lord brings poverty and gives wealth - (1 Sam 2:7)
 - b. The earth and everything in it...belongs to the Lord - (Ps 24:1)
 - c. The one who oppresses the poor person insults his Maker, but the one who is kind to the needy honors Him - (Prov 14:31)
 - d. Go to the ant, you slacker! Observe its ways and become wise...it prepares its provisions in summer; it gathers its food during harvest - (Prov. 6:6,8)
 - e. Paul calls the Corinthians to the spiritual discipline of giving as the Lord prospers them - (1 Cor. 16:1), as each decides in his heart, under no compulsion, for God loves cheerful givers - (2 Cor 9:7)
4. Read Nehemiah 5:9-10. Do you fear God in the way you deal with your money? How do you think you do on regulating your finances according to God's instruction in the Bible?
5. What was Nehemiah's new role as appointed by king Artaxerxes? How long did he have this role? What actions did Nehemiah take to care for the people as their Governor? Why did he make these decisions?

6. Nehemiah provided for himself 12 years while Governor of Judah. We continue to get a more accurate picture of the person of Nehemiah. What else have we learned about him in this chapter?

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. What does tonight's conversation lead you to pray for? What burdens have been presented in conversation?