

Catalyst Home Group

Discussion Questions :: 03/28-4/1, 2010

Nehemiah 12:27-13:31

Dedication, Celebration & Realignment

It's been a long journey. The story is coming to an end. The narrative history of Israel's journey with God to rebuild the city is coming to a close. In Nehemiah's eyes, the task of rebuilding the city, its walls, the people, and proper obedience to God's Word are all in place. And now, in chapter 12, it's time to celebrate the goodness and faithfulness of God. A grand party brings his journey to an end; complete with choirs, instruments, flicker tape parades, singing, and rejoicing. The wall and the work of God is celebrated in grand Jewish fashion as they remember the labor and success they have endured and enjoy.

Chapter 13 concludes Nehemiah with his final attempts to make sure the people of God stay on task and obedient. He asks the people to remember their covenant and his God for his labor.

In a similar way, we celebrated the goodness of God on Sunday. We celebrated how God worked through Vision Ignited - how He aligned hearts, hands and finances around our common vision. You were a part of that and it was a great celebration Sunday.

However, our work is not done. In fact, the real work has just begun. We will need to get our hands dirty, our knees on the ground in prayer, and our sacrifices offered. In many ways, this is our time to celebrate and realign in a similar way Nehemiah did.

Discussion Questions:

[1] Remind everyone who you are inviting to Easter at Promenade Park this next Sunday? How did you invite them? Are they coming? Who else are you going to invite this week?

[2] When was the last great party you were at? What was being celebrated?

[3] **Read Nehemiah 12:27-47** Why such a big celebration? Who was honored? Who got the credit for all the work done?

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Discussion Questions Continued...

[4] What was the purpose of the processions? Why the specific direction around the wall? (hint: 2:13-20).

[5] As you recount your personal journey through Vision Ignited, what did God teach you? What did you submit to Christ in this time? (heart, hands finances)

[6] What has changed in your life/behavior as a result?

[7] Realignment :: **Read Nehemiah 13.** What happened right after Nehemiah was no longer governing Jerusalem? What 5 reforms did he implement?

[8] Why is realignment so important after vision is cast and the work is celebrated? Why do people so easily stray?

[9] What can you do to personally find realignment for your spiritual life and commitment to Christ?

[10] How can your home group help you in that?