

Catalyst Home Group

Discussion Questions :: 03/14-03/18, 2010

Nehemiah 9-10

Confession & Covenant

As Nehemiah seeks to rebuild the community of God (Israel), there are two things that must be done. He must help Israel create a culture of confession and covenant relationships. One helps them see themselves in proper relationship to their God and the other creates a united culture among the people. It's imperative that the community of God sees themselves in relation to their God, their meta-narrative, and to one another. Chapter 9 begins with the people corporately confessing their sins and the sins of their fathers; the first step in moving forward. The Levites then deliver a complete history of their life with God. It's one of remembering Israel's unfaithfulness in spite of God's faithfulness. Chapter 10 then shows the response to these realities. We see leaders stepping up and the people stepping in. Each assumes the responsibility of the whole.

As we look forward in our personal lives and our corporate life as a church, we see a great model for how to live before God and among one another.

Discussion Questions:

[1] What questions do you have from Sunday's sermon? What stood out to you? What confused you?

[2] Share about a time when God undeniably showed up in your life? What did you learn? What changed afterward?

[3] How has God shown his love, mercy, consistency, faithfulness and grace in your life?

[4] **Read Nehemiah 9:1-3.** Why are they corporately confessing their sins? Why is this so important in corporate worship?

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Discussion Questions Continued...

[5] What role does confession play in your worship? Why do we confess our sins as a part of worship?

[6] Read Nehemiah 9:4-37. What stands out? Why do you think they remembered and recounted their history? Why was this so important?

[7] Israel's story is riddled with times of disobedience and unfaithfulness despite God's faithfulness and mercy. Why is it so important to do recall this in our own lives?

[8] **Now Read Nehemiah 9:38-10:39** (you can skip the names if you want). What were the responsibilities of "the rest of the people"?

[9] Why was it so important that they make a covenant as a nation/people? How does this build community and mission?

[10] What could we do as a home group or as a church to create a deeper level of covenant with one another? How would this change our group, our church, and our city?