



# NEHEMIAH

SMALL GROUP GUIDE  
FALL 2023



# SMALL GROUP COMPONENTS

## WELCOME

This makes new believers; visitors and members feel valued and welcomed. This begins with your phone calls and continues as they enter your home and all throughout the evening. A warm welcome establishes a foundation for relationships, makes every one aware of what is going on, and brings focus to the group.

## OPENING PRAYER

Prepare your hearts for what God has for you and shifts your attention from individual fellowship to the group.

## PURPOSE

Express your purpose behind meeting as a small group (e.g. making disciples, reaching the lost). This helps prepare your hearts and minds for the discussion.

## SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES (Listed on following page)

Establish and agree upon boundaries for a healthy group. Establish a safe environment where everyone can share openly and honestly. This provides Biblical guidance for healthy conflict and resolution.

## ICEBREAKER

Do an activity that sets the stage for transparency and trust and helps create a safe environment. This may involve low-risk participation. (eg; small game, testimony, a 'hook' question, or worship)

## REVIEW

Before you begin the study portion of the meeting, summarize the section of scripture studied for the week. This helps to get everyone on the same page from the start.

## STUDY/STORY

This is the "business" of the group. This section is where you will look at God's Word together and go over answers to the weekly exercises. While all exercises are important for building personal understanding and application, not all exercises need to be discussed during the small group meeting. This is up to the discretion of the small group leader.

## TAKEAWAY/RECAP

How can we apply what we learned to our lives? Paraphrase what happened in your group's discussion. You may even choose to issue a challenge for your group.

## CELEBRATION

Spend time recognizing what God accomplished in the group. Thank and praise God and encourage each other.

## CLOSING PRAYER

Refocus your attention on God and His provision. This is the time for personal prayer requests, group needs, and to praise God.

# SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

## SAFE PLACE

We will strive to create an environment where we can be real, open, and honest about our lives. Confidentiality is key - what is said in the group stays in the group, Be aware of how you are affecting the environment with your words, actions, and nonverbal communication. This needs to be an environment where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

## NO CROSS TALK

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, checking phones, responding to texts or emails, etc. Give the speaker your undivided attention, and acknowledge the message.

## LISTEN

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

## NO RESCUING OR FIXING

We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

## USE "I" STATEMENTS

It's easy to talk about the issues of others or respond with "we", "us", "the church". But for us to grow as disciples and build relationships we need to use "I" statements.

## DON'T OVERTALK

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

## FIGHT FOR RELATIONSHIP

When, not if, conflict or hurt feelings happen in the group, we commit to working hard to keep good relationship with each other. If you have conflict with someone in the group, go to that person and share your struggle, or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the situation.

# WEEKLY STUDY SECTIONS

Use the sections marked below for your personal Bible study time and for discussion at your small group meetings. *These sections are not intended to follow the pace of the sermon series.*

**Week 1: Nehemiah 1:1-11**

**Week 2: Nehemiah 2:1-20**

**Week 3: Nehemiah 3:1-32**

**Week 4: Nehemiah 4:1-23**

**Week 5: Nehemiah 6:1-19**

**Week 6: Nehemiah 8:1-18**

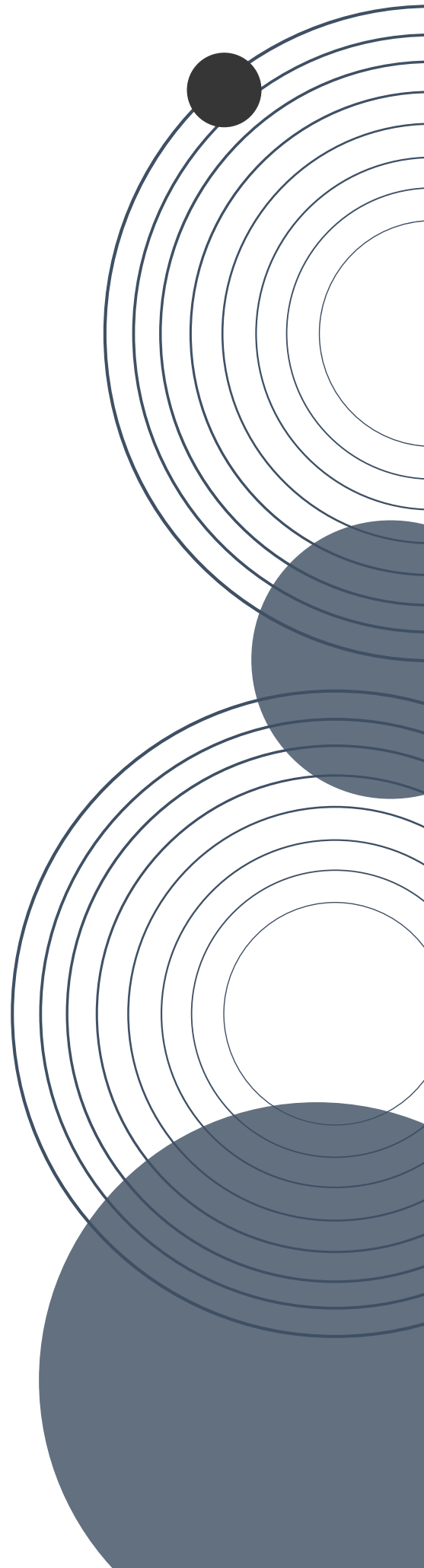
**Week 7: Nehemiah 12:27-43**

**Week 8: Nehemiah 13:14-31**

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Each week has a series of exercises to complete for a section of study. The exercises are sectioned by day if you choose to use this for your daily devotions, which is recommended.

Write your answers down and be ready to share at your small group meeting!



# WEEK 1: NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

## DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

## DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
- What does God want to teach me from this
- What is the central thought the writer is trying to develop?

## DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

- Write down what you think would be a key or important word in the chapter, there may be more than one.

CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
  - Things you don't understand
  - Problems or questions you would like to study further

## WEEK 1: NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
- What can you learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?
- What attributes of God in Christ are illustrated here?

### DAY 5

#### CHARACTERS

- List the main characters from the chapter.

#### CONCLUSIONS (APPLICATION)

- Pray for insight on how to apply this chapter to your life.
- Tell God you are ready to obey what He shows you.

### DAY 6

#### CHOOSE A VERSE

- What verse either summarizes the chapter or speaks to you personally?

#### CONCLUSIONS (GAME PLAN)

- Write down insights you discovered through your meditation and how you will apply the scripture to your life.
  - **Make it personal** - write it in first person.
  - **Make it practical and specific** - create a plan of action.
  - **Make it possible** - something you can accomplish
  - **Make it provable and measurable** - set a time limit to take action.

## NOTES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

## WEEK 2: NEHEMIAH 2:1-20

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

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### DAY 4

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#### CHRIST SEEN

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## WEEK 3: NEHEMIAH 3:1-32

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
- What does God want to teach me from this
- What is the central thought the writer is trying to develop?

### DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

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CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
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  - Problems or questions you would like to study further

## WEEK 3: NEHEMIAH 3:1-32

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
- What can you learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?
- What attributes of God in Christ are illustrated here?

### DAY 5

#### CHARACTERS

- List the main characters from the chapter.

#### CONCLUSIONS (APPLICATION)

- Pray for insight on how to apply this chapter to your life.
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## WEEK 4: NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
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### DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

- Write down what you think would be a key or important word in the chapter, there may be more than one.

CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
  - Things you don't understand
  - Problems or questions you would like to study further

## WEEK 4: NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
- What can you learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?
- What attributes of God in Christ are illustrated here?

### DAY 5

#### CHARACTERS

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## NOTES AND PRAYER REQUESTS



## WEEK 5: NEHEMIAH 6:1-19

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
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### DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

- Write down what you think would be a key or important word in the chapter, there may be more than one.

CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
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## WEEK 5: NEHEMIAH 6:1-19

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
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## NOTES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

## WEEK 6: NEHEMIAH 8:1-18

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
- What does God want to teach me from this
- What is the central thought the writer is trying to develop?

### DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

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CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
  - Things you don't understand
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## WEEK 6: NEHEMIAH 8:1-18

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
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### DAY 5

#### CHARACTERS

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## WEEK 7: NEHEMIAH 12:27-43

### DAY 1

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- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

CENTRAL LESSON

- Write down major principles or insights.
- Why does God want this passage in the Bible?
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### DAY 3

CRUCIAL WORDS

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CHALLENGES

- List any challenges you have with the chapter:
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## WEEK 7: NEHEMIAH 12:27-43

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

- Look up other verses that help clarify what the chapter is talking about.

#### CHRIST SEEN

- What do you see that says something about Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or God in this chapter?
- What can you learn about the nature of Jesus from this chapter?
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## NOTES AND PRAYER REQUESTS

## WEEK 8: NEHEMIAH 13:14-31

### DAY 1

READ Nehemiah 1:1-11.

- Read it without notes and without stopping.
- Read it in several different translations.
- Read it aloud quietly.

CAPTION the text.

- Write a 1-5 word description of the chapter.

### DAY 2

CONTENTS

- Describe, summarize, paraphrase or list the major points from the chapter.

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## WEEK 8: NEHEMIAH 13:14-31

### DAY 4

#### CROSS REFERENCES

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#### CHRIST SEEN

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