

CTK Community Group Sermon Discussion Questions & Announcements

Week of 10/2/22

DISCUSSION: [Nehemiah 5](#)

(Discuss the question cluster below - as much or as little as works for your group)

Feel free to break off into smaller groups if it helps you share more personally

We're in a sermon series in the book of Nehemiah called *A Time to Rebuild*. Through it, we're focusing on the ways we, as individuals and as a church, can rebuild after the past 2+ years of transition and challenges. And we'll do so in confidence that God will be the one rebuilding us as we go.

- I. This week, our passage (Neh. 5) focused on how the internal crisis the people faced revealed a wider scope of what we, as God's people, are called to rebuild and how it guides us toward healthy responses to the needs around us. We looked at: 1) The problem facing the people (vv.1-5); 2) Nehemiah's response (vv.6-11); and 3) The result of his response (vv.12-19). The sermon helped us see that to rebuild but leave people behind as we do that, is to miss the whole point of rebuilding the community of God. So, we need to be a people who listen to the problems around us and pursue healthy ways to respond to them — even when it means paying a price ourselves to help solve them. Ultimately, we do that because of the price Christ paid to redeem us from our problems. Let's discuss how these ideas impact our lives.
 - A. What connected with you from the sermon or from the passage?
 - B. Nehemiah showed us what responding appropriately to the outcries and needs around us looks like: 1) taking a breath (pausing to process) (v.7); 2) genuinely confronting the issue (v.7-8); 3) drawing ourselves back to God's vision of flourishing/rebuilding (v.8); 4) owning our part in the problem (v.10); and 5) offering a specific solution to the problem (v.10-11).
 1. *Which of these steps spoke to you or seemed helpful?*
 2. *What step seemed like it would be hard to do for you?*
 3. *What step might God be calling you to lean into more right now? How do you need his help to do that?*
 - C. We also talked about how the debt forgiveness of this passage shows us that God calls us not just to fairness, but to move beyond that to *radical generosity* (just like the radical generosity God gives us in Christ).
 1. *Where are you the least/most generous? With your: time? energy? words? affections? money?*
 2. *What's 1 practical way you could show more generosity through one of those areas (time, energy, words, affections, money) this week?*
 3. *What might it look like for us as a group to practice more generosity (with each other and even outside our group)?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- If you are new to CTK and interested in joining, we'll have a newcomers class called Discovering CTK on October 15th from 9a-3p. You can register at ctkcambridge.org/discovering-ctk
- A new Adult Education class is starting on October 16th in the social hall at 9:15a on *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Please [register to attend](#). Register by 10/9 for a free copy of the book!