

Bible Study 11 - Service and celebration - Nehemiah 12

In 444 BC Nehemiah returned from Susa in Babylon to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. All kinds of people worked together in unity. When they faced external opposition, Nehemiah prayed, posted guards and armed the workforce. When they faced poverty, Nehemiah rebuked the wealthy. When Nehemiah was intimidated by his enemies, he opposed their threats and temptations, he prayed and he kept working on the project until the wall was finished. Then he appointed a mayor, gatekeepers and Levites. When the Scripture was read they confessed their sins, celebrated the Festivals of Trumpets & Tabernacles and renewed their covenant to obey the Lord.

PART 1 Read Nehemiah 12

High priests (v.10-11)	How many generations of High Priests are mentioned (see 3:1)?
Priests (v.1-7; 12-21)	How many generations of Priests are mentioned?
Levites (v.8-9; 22-26)	How many generations of Levites are mentioned?
People purified (v.27-30)	Why do you think the people were made ceremonially clean?
Choirs (v.31-39)	What did the choirs do?
Celebration (v.40-43)	What was the purpose of the celebration (v.27, 43)?
Tithes (v.44-47)	What was the purpose of the tithes?

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What I learnt about God the Father, Jesus Christ or the Holy Spirit.

2. Summarise the key verse(s) in your own words.

3. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

4. What fallen condition of human behaviour required the writing of this passage?

5. How can we recognise & support those who serve faithfully in our church?

6. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

7. How do you feel you need to change in order to live as a person of God?

