

## Fresh Start – Week 5

### Message Based Curriculum

#### Opening

- Begin with a brief welcome and prayer to set the tone for the group time.
- Have you ever had a moment where you realized you were the problem in a situation? Share a time when you realized your own actions or attitudes were creating an obstacle.

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#### Bible Reflection

Read **Nehemiah 5:1-13** together.

#### Key Takeaways:

- Nehemiah led the rebuilding of Jerusalem’s walls as a sign of national restoration and spiritual renewal.
- As external opposition arose, an even greater problem emerged – internal oppression and conflict among God’s people.
- Nehemiah confronted the injustice, leading to repentance and restoration.

#### Discussion Questions

##### 1. Recognizing the Internal Battle

- In Nehemiah 5:1-5, the people cried out because they were being oppressed by their own kin. What are the specific injustices they faced?
- What are some modern-day examples of how division, greed, or selfishness within the church can slow down God’s work?

##### 2. The Courage to Say, “This is Not Right”

- Read Nehemiah 5:6-9. How did Nehemiah respond when he was the oppression taking place?
- What does this response teach us about addressing sin and injustice in the church?
- Why do you think people hesitate to speak up when they see wrongdoing, even within the church?

##### 3. Taking Action and Accountability

- Nehemiah didn’t just call out the problem-he took action. How did he personally model generosity and accountability in verses 10-13?
- Why is accountability crucial for living out lives of godly integrity? How can we implement accountability in our own lives?
- Share a time when someone held you accountable in a loving and godly way. How did it impact you?

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#### Prayer Time

- Either break into pairs or smaller groups or as a group share and pray for one another.
  - **Prayer for the Church:** Ask God to heal His people.

- **Pray for Boldness:** Ask for boldness to speak the truth and take action when needed.
  - **Pray for Personal Accountability:** Ask the Lord to point out the areas in your life where you need Him to bring accountability and strengthen your integrity.
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### **Closing**

- Remind your group members that this is a safe place to seek accountability. Remind one another that you have the responsibility to help one another in your pursuit of holiness.
- As our series on Nehemiah is preparing to end, remind your group to continue to engage with the Book of Nehemiah throughout the week.