

Sermon Discussion Questions
Keeping the Temple Clean

Nehemiah 13:1-9

September 24, 2017

1. Jeremy mentioned how Jill had to whip him into shape with the lack of cleanliness he had as a bachelor. If you are married, what adjustments did the two of you have to make in the way you behaved as you met and started dating?
 - If you are not married, how have you changed because someone you love has had an impact on you?
2. Jeremy told the story of Balaam and his donkey as it was mentioned in Nehemiah 13:1-2. Its a fascinating story of the Old Testament found in Numbers 22:15-35.
 - What do you think you would have done if you were Balaam and your donkey spoke?
3. Jeremy mentioned how the Ammonite and the Moabite people originated. Read Genesis 19:30-38 to learn about the atrocities that were made for these sons to be born. The daughters of Lot thought they were carrying on the family tree. God thought otherwise. Also, in Nehemiah 13:4-5, 7, Eliashib thought he was doing something good, when in reality it was “evil.”
 - What are some things that people do today that they see as either “good” or “not bad” and God thinks otherwise?
 - “evil” is such a strong word. Why do you think Nehemiah used that strong of a word?
 - How can we avoid doing things that we don’t see as bad, but God may see as evil?
 - Not doing it God’s way started in the Garden of Eden. What was it that got Eve and Adam off track according to Genesis 3:1-7? Compare Genesis 3:6 with 1 John 2:16 — how are they alike and what do they say specifically about what gets us off track?
4. Jeremy said that we are the temple of God both individually and corporately. Pull out from these passages at least 7 observation on what it means to be God’s temple (1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Jeremy only read vv.18-20); 1 Peter 2:1-12).
 - 1 Corinthians 6:19 says “you are not your own.” This being true, how does that reality affect your life? How can the truth of Galatians 2:20 help live this out?
 - Remember the story of when Jeremy worked at the restaurant and there were cockroaches? How does that illustration affect how you think God feels about the sin in our lives? Will that feeling have any affect on you as you think about what is immoral in your life? Explain.
5. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 gives us some pretty strict boundaries. What are they and how do they square with 1 Corinthians 5:9–10; 10:27; 14:22–24?
 - How can we strive after Paul’s admonition in 2 Corinthians 7:1 without living a guilt-ridden life?