



Series: **What If!**

Message: **Point of Need**

DISCUSSION GUIDE

LET'S TALK

START:

- Have you ever experienced a time when things went badly for you because of circumstances out of your control and you needed help? Do you know of anyone who has had this happen to them? What was it like? How did it feel?

THINK:

- First read Nehemiah chapter 5, verses 2- 5 and 9. In the midst of his project, Nehemiah was confronted with the needs of his people. He addressed these needs and confronted those who were neglecting these needs in favor of their own self interest. Have you ever neglected the needs of those around you in favor of your own needs? Why do you think that happened?
- Read Nehemiah chapter 5 verses 17-18. Nehemiah was a leader who recognized other's needs and helped them. Are there people in your life who have urgent needs, like Nehemiah's people did? What steps do you need to take to start seeing those needs?
- Have you ever thought that church was just for you and your enrichment? If you don't feel that way any longer, what changed your mind or helped you see things differently? What can you do to help others begin to understand what it means to not go to church, but to "be the church"?

PRAY:

- Ask God to allow you to see things with His eyes this week. Ask Him to show you who you can meet at their point of need this week.

ACT:

- Take a self inventory of your relationships. Are there any people in your life that you are putting second to your own personal needs? Go to that person, or those people, and tell them you're sorry for that. Think of what you can do to put them first moving forward.
- Be on the lookout for some where you work, live, or play that has a need due to things beyond their control. Do what you can to help.

² Some were saying, "We and our sons and daughters are numerous; in order for us to eat and stay alive, we must get grain."

³ Others were saying, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our homes to get grain during the famine."

⁴ Still others were saying, "We have had to borrow money to pay the king's tax on our fields and vineyards. ⁵ Although we are of the same flesh and blood as our fellow Jews and though our children are as good as theirs, yet we have to subject our sons and daughters to slavery..."

Nehemiah 5:2-5

⁹ So I continued, "What you are doing is not right. Shouldn't you walk in the fear of our God to avoid the reproach of our Gentile enemies?" **Nehemiah 5:9**

¹⁷ Furthermore, a hundred and fifty Jews and officials ate at my table, as well as those who came to us from the surrounding nations. ¹⁸ Each day one ox, six choice sheep and some poultry were prepared for me, and every ten days an abundant supply of wine of all kinds. In spite of all this, I never demanded the food allotted to the governor, because the demands were heavy on these people.

Nehemiah 5:17-18



TRI COUNTY CHURCH
REACHING PEOPLE...CHANGING LIVES