

Message Notes

Nehemiah Part 4: Interior Remodeling

Nehemiah 5:1-12

→ a surprise for the Brooks family

#1 The impact of the _____ will be shaped by the condition of the _____.

→ a problem with food - **vs. 1-4**

→ the real problem in Jerusalem - **vs. 5**

#2 When I am the _____, the mission will get out of _____.

→ Our mission: To lead people to Jesus.

→ staying on mission takes sacrifice

#3 We ask people who _____ the love of Jesus to _____ those who don't.

→ Nehemiah's reaction - **vs. 6-12**

#4 Let's be a church that's undeniably on _____.

Group Questions

Nehemiah Part 4: Interior Remodeling

Nehemiah 5:1-12

1. Share a time in your life when you were part of a team or a business or a relationship where the people involved had different agendas.

What happened? What did you learn from that experience?

2. **Read Nehemiah 5:1-4.** Explain the situation in Jerusalem.

3. **Read Nehemiah 5:5.** Why was the problem bigger than just a food issue?

What was at the heart of why these nobles and officials were putting their brothers into debt?

Name at least three negative results that occurred because of the selfishness of these nobles.

4. The mission of Bethlehem is to lead people to Jesus. Share at least three reasons why that is so important.

5. Why is our first question about church usually, *"Do I like this?"* Is that wrong?

6. A better first question to ask is, *"Does this help us to clearly lead the people of our community to Jesus?"* Why is that better? Why is it hard to do?

7. **Read Nehemiah 5:6-12.** Nehemiah was passionate about the Israelites keeping a sharp focus on their goal. Why?

How does keeping a sharp focus on our mission (reaching the lost), also provide a great way for all members to grow in their faith and faith-life? (**cf. Matthew 22:36-40**)