



# NEHEMIAH

2

CHARACTER



*Each session will begin with an opportunity to help you connect with and get to know one another.*

What has been your favorite job over the course of your life? What makes that job stand out from the rest?

*Play the "Session Two: Character" video lesson.*

What stood out to you from the video?

"CHARACTER IS EVERYTHING. WHO YOU ARE IS INFINITELY MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHAT YOU SAY. POST OR LEAD."

— DUSTY FRIZZELL

*In the following section, you will explore Bible passages and take part in discussion to apply insights from this session. If time is a concern, please choose just a few questions to discuss in your group.*

**Read Nehemiah 2:1-10**

1. What is the biggest favor you've ever asked for? Did you receive it or were you turned down? Whenever someone asks you for a favor, what factors do you consider before saying yes or no?

2. Even though it was against his best interest, the king granted Nehemiah's request. Why did the king do this? Why do you think the king trusted Nehemiah and believed he would keep his word? How do you build trust with others?



3. Even though Nehemiah didn't typically show his emotions before the king, he did on this occasion. Why do you think Nehemiah's feelings came out? Why should we show others our emotions and our passion? How might this change the way others see us?

***Read 1 Peter 2:11-12 & 1 Peter 3:8-17***

4. Why did Peter ask the Christians to maintain good character among their unbelieving neighbors? Why is good character crucial for us as we share Christ with others? How do you feel when you hear the gospel shared by someone with questionable character?

5. The Christians to whom Peter writes couldn't control whether or not someone might accuse them of wrongdoing. But they could control their character. Why should we focus on what we can control rather than worrying about what we cannot? Why do we tend to worry about what we cannot control?

6. Share about how your character and reputation have served you during your life. How have you personally watched God work through your integrity? Who is someone in your life who trusts you and would listen to you if you shared the gospel with them? How will you take one step this week to make that a reality?



## DEEPER STUDY QUESTIONS

*Read Philippians 1:12-30*

7. As Christians, we might tend to think those with selfish motives should not preach the gospel. But according to these verses, Paul rejoiced when that happened. Why? How do these verses reveal what Paul values most and what Christians should value most as well?

8. In Philippians 1:27, Paul writes that good Christian character leads to unity and solidarity in the church. Why does he assume this? How does seeking to live like Christ bring us together rather than separate us?

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

*This is a place where you can write each other's prayer requests and make notes when God answers prayer. Pray for each other's requests out loud together as a group. If you're new to group prayer, you may pray silently.*

### **Prayer Requests**

### **Praise Reports**