

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

RESTORED

LESSONS IN NEHEMIAH

Lesson 17 – Dwell in Unity

Nehemiah 11:1-36

Although the wall was complete, the work was far from done. For more than 70 years, Jerusalem had been a ghost town. In fact, more people lived outside the city than inside. Now it was important that the Jews inhabit their capital city once again. After all, why rebuild the walls and have no one live there? The leaders came up with a plan to repopulate the city and soon Jerusalem was flourishing. Chapter 11 lists the names of those who moved and were now living in the city. This change wasn't easy and it came with personal sacrifice. These people left their homes and comfortable lives risking everything to move for the sake of unity and to further the work of the Lord. Don't think for a moment that God did not recognize their sacrifice. Remember, when we choose to dwell together in unity, and participate in the ministry of the Lord, God sees and is well pleased.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: Nehemiah 11:1-36

Now the leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine-tenths were to dwell in other cities. ² And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem. ³ These are the heads of the province who dwelt in Jerusalem. (But in the cities of Judah everyone dwelt in his own possession in their cities—Israelites, priests, Levites, Nethinim, and descendants of Solomon's servants.) (Verses 4-36, although still important, were intentionally left out.)

This Week's Memory Verse:

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!
Psalm 133:1(NKJV)

1. Nehemiah 11:1-2 tell us some people moved to Jerusalem because they were chosen by lots and others volunteered. Either way, they joined together for the sake of their beloved Jerusalem and were commended for their choice. Read 1 Corinthians 1:10 and write the commands given regarding unity. _____

2. Notice that those who offered to move to Jerusalem were blessed. It may have been safer and easier for them to stay where they were, but for the sake of God's kingdom they moved. Read Deuteronomy 5:32-33 and share what brings the blessings of God in our lives.

3. Nehemiah records another long list of names of those who had helped in the work of the Lord. This serves as a reminder that our Heavenly Father sees and records what His children do. Each person is important and each task done for Him is significant. What do you learn about the Lord's watchfulness over you, from the scriptures below?

a. Psalm 33:13-15: _____

b. Psalm 121:8: _____

c. Proverbs 15:3: _____

4. The Lord desires to rebuild, restore and fill us. This means that He may call us to walk in unchartered territory or ask us to do things outside of our comfort zone. Read Matthew 19:26 and share how this verse will help you do things you never imagined! _____

Reflect and Respond – The restored city of Jerusalem needed laborers and people willing to serve. The church today has similar needs. God never forces people, but He is looking for those whose hearts are ready, willing, and available to serve Him. Think about yourself for a moment. Are you involved in the work of the ministry? What gift has God given you that could be used to serve the body of Christ? Is God calling you to volunteer? Pause and consider this: If you desire to be part of what God is doing, you will be blessed beyond measure! Share any thoughts you have below. _____

Result – Consider today’s Bible study lecture and group time. What one lesson will you take away from this study and apply to your walk with the Lord? _____
