

Study Questions for the August 30, 2020 Sermon:
“Hear it, Understand it, Do it”
Nehemiah 8

1. Memory question: Early in the sermon, Pastor Paul commented that, once the walls were rebuilt, Nehemiah focused on rebuilding the Israelite's _____.
2. Pastor Paul referenced a 3-step process that leads to spiritual maturity:
 - 1) Read or hear the Bible; 2) Understand what you read through reflection, prayer, and the wisdom of others; and 3) Apply what you learn.
 - a. If there were any passages in Nehemiah for you that followed that process, please share your experience.
 - b. Same questions for all of the Bible. Is there any passage that you read, understood, and applied to your day-to-day behavior?
 - c. When you sense that you do not understand a Bible passage, to whom/what do you go for help in understanding?
3. Verse 9 states that the people wept as they listened to the reading of the Law, presumably because they were distressed by the difference between their lifestyles and God's standards. If you have ever had a similar experience, in which you were reading the Bible, or confronted by a Christian friend, or just convicted by someone's example, please share.
4. Verses 13 through 17 give an example of reading, understanding, and obeying scripture. The Jews celebrated the Feast of Booths/Tabernacles as prescribed in Leviticus 23 *and there was very great rejoicing*. Are any early-church practices described in scripture from which we have, as individuals or as a church, drifted away? Give the scripture reference.
5. Read Ezra 7:10. How was Ezra qualified to preach and explain God's Word to God's people?
6. Verses 3 and 6 describe the great reverence for which the people had regained for God's word? What safeguards can you put in place to guard against apathy towards God's Word?
7. After considering this passage of Nehemiah, what would you say to the Christian who claimed “I don't need to gather with other believers; I can worship God and read His Word on my own”?