

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Standing Strong

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: The Goodness of God

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Memory Verse: Nehemiah 9:10 NIV

You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his officials and all the people of his land, for you knew how arrogantly the Egyptians treated them. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word to lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: The goodness of God is meant to lead us to repentance and commitment.

Read Nehemiah 8

1. The people gathered eagerly to hear the reading of God's Word (v 1-3). What does their attitude reveal about their spiritual hunger? How would you rate your passion and spiritual hunger for the Lord? Who in your life might be experiencing a stirring or hunger for God's Word? How can you encourage them?
2. The Levites are instructing the people in God's Word and making sure that it is clear to them (v 7-8). Why is understanding Scripture so important? What steps do you take to better understand God's Word? Who has helped you understand God's Word more deeply? How can you play that role for someone else?
3. When the people understand God's Word, they are convicted of their sin and shortcomings before a holy and perfect God (v 9). How has God used His Word in your life to convict you of sin?



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4. Nehemiah tells the people, “The joy of the Lord is your strength” (v 10). How do you personally experience God’s joy as a source of strength? In what areas of your life do you need to lean into God’s joy for strength right now? How can you help others in your life experience the joy and renewal found in God’s Word? Why is it so hard for us as people today to find our ultimate joy in the Lord alone?

Read Nehemiah 9

5. Once the people of God were at rest they again rebelled (v 28a). Would you agree that comfort and complacency can cause us to wander and stray away from God? Why or why not? How can seasons of challenge help us mature in our faith?
6. Time after time the people would rebel, repent and be restored (v 28b). Have you ever been stiff-necked toward the Lord? What brought you to repentance? How did you experience restoration?
7. Verses 16-31 describe the repeated cycle of rebellion, consequences, repentance, and God’s mercy. What does this reveal about God’s character? How does this cycle compare to your own experiences?

Read Nehemiah 10

8. The Israelites made a formal covenant to follow God’s Law (v 28-29). What stands out to you about their commitment? Have you ever made a formal or intentional commitment to grow in your faith? What prompted that decision? How did you follow through?

Reach out to anyone who couldn’t participate with your Small Group and make a personal connection with them this coming week (call, text, email, or personal face-to-face conversation). Let them know they were missed, and you look forward to seeing them next time.



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