

HEART AT WORK

HOW TO ENGAGE WITH NEHEMIAH

This guide is intended to provide you with a 7 step process for engaging with our church-wide study of Nehemiah. Our hope is that you would experience the Living God through direct interaction with His Living Word. This will look different for everyone.

1 **Return**

The first step to engaging with God and His Word is to ensure you are fully present with Him. We must consciously return to Him daily. Take a few minutes to still your heart, your soul, your mind, and your body. And ask God to reveal Himself to you through His Word.

2 **Read** Read the passage.

3 **Retell**

If you were to re-tell this passage to someone who has not read it, what would you say? Put it into your own words. This process will help you become more familiar with the text. And it will begin to seep inside of you in a new way.

4 **Recollect**

Take some time to go back through the passage and re-collect observations, thoughts, and revelations. Imagine yourself walking through a wood and re-collecting treasures along the way. What makes you stop and pause and take notice?

Did you find patterns, repetitions or themes? Ideas, insights or intricate details that popped off the page? What about fresh understandings of God and His character?

These recollections may spur you on to seek greater understanding or clarification. Feel free to research on your own or utilize our resource guide online



5 Reflect

Spend some time reflecting on how the Spirit has guided you in this process so far:
How has God spoken to you? What questions has He placed on your heart?
Write down some questions that allow you to continue to reflect on His Word.

(Don't feel pressured to answer these questions...simply reflect on the words God is giving you. These questions may be specifically about the passage or larger than that. Also, if you are part of group that regularly meets together, you could each bring a couple of reflection questions to your meeting. These could form your discussion with one another.)

6 Respond

Respond to God. Bring the words He has spoken to you through His Word back to Him.
Ask Him to reveal what He would have you do with the words you have received.
How might your life now be a living response to His Word?

7 Return

Now, go. Return to your daily routine with God's words still ringing in your ears and spilling from your lips. And live out the truth of His Good News in your own life.