

Connect Group Discussion Guide *Series: Rebuild for Revival*

Week 10/11 – Repentance Pattern and Practice What We Preach

DISCUSSION STARTER: Ask everyone how their week was and for them to share anything God has laid on their heart or spoke to them in the message.

DISCUSSION:

1. In the message "The Repentance Pattern" we learned that repentance should not be a one time event, rather a lifestyle. What does repentance mean?
2. Read **Hebrews 4:13** - Why do we find it so hard to expose our sins to God? If God already knows our sins, what is the point of confessing our sins?
3. Repentance brings mercy and healing. Read and discuss EACH of the following scriptures: **James 5:16, Proverbs 28:13, Psalm 32:5**. What does it mean that our INIQUITY is hidden when we confess the transgression? What is the difference between iniquity and transgressions? (iniquity is the root of our sin, what we are bent toward and transgression is the outward action of that root)
4. What does it mean to make a promise to God after you repent like the people in **Nehemiah 9** did? Read **Matthew 3:8** and talk about how the way we live shows true repentance.
5. Last week in the message "Practice What We Preach" we saw how the people in **Nehemiah 10** made promises to God and how they lived out the promise. Point #1 was "Lead by Example" = Read **Titus 1:15-16** and discuss why it's so important to actually live out our faith in practice.
6. Read **Nehemiah 10:28** and discuss the importance of separation from the world. How far is too far? What does it really mean to be "in the world but not of the world".
7. We see that the people swore curses on themselves if they were to break their promise to God. Discuss promises, curses, and freedom from curses by studying the following scriptures: **Galatians 6:7-8, Galatians 3:13, 2 Corinthians 7:1**.
8. Practicing what we preach extends to the relationships and friendships. We see in **Nehemiah 10:30** that they tried to honor this. Discuss **2 Corinthians 6:14-15** and **Proverbs 13:20**.
9. Practicing what we preach extends to our workplace. We see in **Nehemiah 10:31** that they tried to work hard, yet have their time of rest, honoring how God designed us to work and rest. Discuss **Proverbs 12:11** and **Proverbs 16:3** and discuss the importance of work and a time of rest and how you don't let rest outweigh the work.
10. Practicing what we preach extends to the church body. **Nehemiah 10:32-39** talk about taking care of the temple of God and we discussed how the temple, the church, is God's people. Read **1 Peter 4:8** and **1 John 3:14-19** and discuss how we practice what we preach by loving people.

PRAY: Take Prayer Requests and post them to the Connect Group FB Wall with the number of people that came to group and write down the names as well.