



GROUP & FAMILY MATERIALS

WEEK 1

DO NOT GIVE UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS
SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT
ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER...

HEBREWS 10:25 (NIV)

WEEK 1 DISCONTENT

INTRODUCTION

No person, family, team, community or church ever fulfilled their potential through complacency with the status quo. A holy discontent is the fuel that helps put a godly vision ablaze. We can observe this in the life of Nehemiah.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER

¹ *The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:*

In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, ² Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

³ *They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."*

⁴ *When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. ⁵ Then I said:*

"Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. ⁷ We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

⁸ *“Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, ⁹ but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.’*

¹⁰ *“They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. ¹¹ Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.”*

I was cupbearer to the king.

PERSONAL READING & OBSERVATIONS

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

What was the problem of the surviving Jewish exiles who were back in the province? (Nehemiah 1:3)

What did Nehemiah do when he heard the news of the broken wall of Jerusalem? (Nehemiah 1:4)

What did Nehemiah confess to the Lord in prayer? (Nehemiah 1:5-7)

How did Nehemiah think he could make a difference regarding Jerusalem's broken wall and what did he ask the Lord to give him? (Nehemiah 1:11)

 WATCH JEFF'S WEEK 1 VIDEO:
DISCONTENT

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR GROUPS

Describe a time in your life when you faced a need greater than your available resources.

What part of Nehemiah's story in these verses jumped out at you and why?

What part of our weekend message encouraged or challenged you and why?

Describe a current challenge (work, family, friend, school, etc.) where the status quo is not acceptable; something that is just not right, and it bothers you.

What would it take for you to confess, bring this need to God, for His help like Nehemiah did?

PRAYER

Tell God about the brokenness in this world that is currently breaking your heart. Ask Him to change hearts, even your own, to promote the change needed to shift the status quo.

COMPASSKIDS CORNER

A FAMILY ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION GUIDE



Find a dot-to-dot activity online and have your child complete it. Another option would be for your child to create their own dot-to-dot for you to do.



Nehemiah 1:1-11



Nehemiah heard that the wall in Jerusalem was broken-down. He could have just ignored the problem but didn't. He felt discontented which means it bothered him that the wall was broken-down. He had a vision for repairing the wall, but it was going to take several steps. Just like the dot-to-dot, that vision was not going to become real unless he did certain things in order.



- What did Nehemiah decide to do first?
- Have you ever prayed before you did something important? What did you pray about?
- Is there something broken that you are discontent or bothered by?
- Like Nehemiah, do you have an idea of something that needs to get done in the world?
- Do you know about our church's plan for a new church building for our South Naperville Campus?



Let's pray that God would help our church see this campaign through to build a new church building.