

Homecoming: Ezra & Nehemiah – Reopening the Bible

May 9, 2021

Attention Life Groups! Instead of using the Reflect + Discuss questions this week, consider trying something different and reading through the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) aloud as a group. This will likely take about 15 minutes (give or take 5 minutes). Discuss the passage (what stood out to you, what questions do you have, etc.) and then pray together.

Reflect + Discuss

- Read Ezra 7:1 – 10 and Nehemiah 7:73 – 8:12. What stands out to you from the text? What questions do you have?
- How did the people react to hearing God’s Word? What did the priests command the people to do, and why?
- How often do you read the Bible? What’s your motivation for reading the Bible?
- What is the main challenge that might make it difficult for you to be passionate about reading God’s Word (hard to understand, seems irrelevant to your life, too busy)?
- What is the most effective way for you to engage with Scripture (e.g. reading, listening, memorizing, singing, etc.)? How can you open up more space in your life to engage with the Bible on a regular basis? What are some concrete steps you can take to spend more time with God’s Word starting this week?

Pray

- Ask God for renewed passion for His Word, and for persistence to establish healthy Bible reading habits.

Next Steps

- Go to our [Resources & Tools](#) page and check out the “Read your Bible” and “Reading Plans” sections to find some tools to help you establish good Bible reading habits.
- Choose one activity (washing the dishes, a daily walk, your commute, working out, etc.) and commit to listening to the Bible as you engage in that activity this week. At the end of the week, reflect on the experience of regularly listening to the Bible, and look for ways to keep establishing the habit of being in the Word regularly.