

Additional Notes:

SERIES: Exile & Return

SERMON 10: "Igniting a Desire for Hearing from God through the Scripture"

TEXT: Nehemiah 8:1-10

DATE: March 3/4, 2018

How Did They Stand for Six Hours of Reading and Teaching?

- It's likely this was a lot more _____ than you would think.
- This is a _____ in a world where there are no smart phones, books, Netflix, movies, or sporting events.
- They don't have _____ in their homes.
- They were _____ for this.

What can you do to keep from taking the Bible for granted and to ignite a desire for it?
Become a _____ of the Bible.

When you become a _____ of the Bible, you become a _____!

Family Discussion Questions:

1. What are some ways our family members can hold each other accountable to obeying God's Word?
2. How does this passage encourage or challenge our family in our study of God's Word?
3. In what ways can our family increase our desire to spend time in God's Word and obey what it says?

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. How did you feel when you heard the story of Tadesa Asay in the sermon?
3. Read Nehemiah 8. The Israelites were commanded to gather at certain feasts and hear the Word read and expounded. We often put the emphasis on individual reading and learning, but the Bible is more communal in its emphasis. Why might gathering to hear God's Word read and expounded be so important for believers?
4. What things may be filling up your heart or life so as to prevent you from having a fresh hunger and thirst for God's Word?
5. What does it look like for you to be a student of God's Word?
6. Expound on the idea that when you become a student of God's Word, you become a student of God.
7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Like the returning exiles, when we read God's Word, we are reminded of our heritage, God's faithfulness, and his saving work. Most of all, in reading God's Word, we are reminded of God's master plan to bring salvation to the world through the cross of Jesus Christ.

THEOLOGICAL THEME

Biblical community must be centered on God's Word.