

NEHEMIAH 9 / APRIL 26

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

Read & Pray

This week's sermon is on Nehemiah 9. As a group, read Nehemiah 9:1–38. This passage highlights the people's response of confession and worship. After reading, spend 60 seconds in silent prayer, then ask, *What stands out to you? What might the Spirit be pressing into your life?* Close by asking God for humility and courage to respond.

Sermon Recap (to *apply*, not rehash the sermon)

Review the sermon with your group, highlighting the following:

- Confession of sin restores the presence and blessing of God in our lives.
- Revival begins when we acknowledge God as righteous and ourselves as sinful.
- We approach God not on the basis of our worthiness but his mercy.
- True confession owns sin fully—without minimizing, hiding, or shifting blame.
- Without confession, there can be no true renewal or revival.

Group Discussion

1. Why is confession often so difficult? Which of the common responses—hiding, minimizing, blameshifting, or repenting—do you most tend toward, and why?
2. The Levites repeatedly declare, “You have dealt faithfully, and we have acted wickedly.” How does acknowledging God's righteousness reshape the way you view your struggles or disappointments?
3. The sermon emphasized appealing to God's mercy rather than our own righteousness. How does this change the way you approach God in prayer?
4. What does it look like to truly “own” your sin before God? How is that different from partial or surface-level confession?
5. The sermon made the point that confession is the gateway to renewal. What is one area of your life where honest confession could lead to greater freedom or restoration?

CHALLENGE

This week, take intentional time to confess sin before God specifically and honestly. Consider also confessing to a trusted believer (probably in your small group), and ask God to bring renewal and freedom through it.

PRAYER

- Ask God to give you a humble and honest heart that is quick to confess sin.
- Pray that you would rely on God's mercy rather than your own righteousness.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring renewal, freedom, and restored intimacy with God through confession.