

"Joy"  
Nehemiah 8: 9:12

**Ice Breaker:**

**Ice Breaker:**

- I'm not a super emotional guy, but when I start talking about my kids, sometimes my throat constricts and I get all choked up. When something really grabs your heart do you tend to weep or laugh or stay pretty stoic?

**Read: Nehemiah 8:9-12**

1. What does this passage tell us about God?
2. What does this passage tell us about people?
3. What three activities do you see in chapter 8 that ought to be foundational to any church?
4. Why are too many Christians joyless?
5. Do you think God is more pleased with our weeping or our rejoicing? Why?
6. Practically what does it mean for us to have the "joy of the Lord"?
7. How does the joy of the Lord provide strength and endurance when life gets tough?
8. What baby steps will you take this week in choosing joy?

**Pray with each other:**

May 6, 2018

"Joy "  
Nehemiah 8: 9-12

Do you often find yourself overwhelmed and frustrated by your imperfections, failure and sin? Where does that strength to endure, strength to stand come from? What is the secret of experiencing a joy-filled life?

1. Thirst for God's Word.
2. Take joy in God's forgiveness.
3. Take joy in His strength.

**Next Step:**

- Ask God, "Please remove the cloud and bring joy into my life. I want to choose joy that is in you. God, help me experience joy when I study your Word and come to better know you.
- What baby steps will you take this week in choosing joy? How will that decision to choose joy reflect on your face?