

## ***Restoring The Gate: A Journey of Renewal Through Nehemiah***

(Nehemiah 8)

“Bring Out the Book”

October 26, 2025

### **I. We Should \_\_\_\_\_ For God’s Word (vv. 1-3)**

*“All the people gathered together at the square in front of the Water Gate. They asked the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses that the Lord had given Israel.” (Nehemiah 8:1, CSB)*

*“While he was facing the square in front of the Water Gate, he read out of it from daybreak until noon before the men, the women, and those who could understand. All the people listened attentively to the book of the law.” (Nehemiah 8:3, CSB)*

**Principle:** True revival begins with a hunger for God’s Word.

### **II. We Should Be \_\_\_\_\_ By God’s Word (vv. 4-8)**

*“Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and with their hands uplifted all the people said, “Amen, Amen!” Then they knelt low and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.” (Nehemiah 8:6, CSB)*

*“They read out of the book of the law of God, translating and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was read.” (Nehemiah 8:8, CSB)*

**Principle** When the Word is explained, it renews minds and shapes lives.

### **III. We Should Be \_\_\_\_\_ By God’s Word (vv. 9-12)**

*For all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, “Go and eat what is rich, drink what is sweet, and send portions to those who have nothing prepared, since today is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, because the joy of the Lord is your strength.” (Nehemiah 8:9–10, CSB)*

*“Then all the people began to eat and drink, send portions, and have a great celebration, because they had understood the words that were explained to them.” (Nehemiah 8:12, CSB)*

**Principle:** God’s Word exposes sin but also restores hope and joy.

### **IV. We Should \_\_\_\_\_ God’s Word (vv. 13-18)**

*They found written in the law how the Lord had commanded through Moses that the Israelites should dwell in shelters during the festival of the seventh month. So they proclaimed and spread this news throughout their towns and in Jerusalem, saying, “Go out to the hill country and bring back branches of olive, wild olive, myrtle, palm, and other leafy trees to make shelters, just as it is written.” (Nehemiah 8:14–15, CSB)*

*“Ezra read out of the book of the law of God every day, from the first day to the last. The Israelites celebrated the festival for seven days, and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the ordinance.” (Nehemiah 8:18, CSB)*

**Principle:** Revival takes root when obedience follows revelation.

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## Small Group Discussion – Bring Out The Book

### Icebreaker

- What's the most impactful book (besides the Bible) you've ever read, and why did it shape you?

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### Digging into the Word

1. Read Nehemiah 8:1–3. What does the eagerness of the people teach us about how we should approach Scripture today?
2. In verses 7–8, the leaders helped explain the Word so people could understand. Why is understanding the Bible just as important as hearing it?
3. The people wept when they heard the Law (v. 9). Why does God's Word sometimes cut us deeply?
4. Ezra and Nehemiah encouraged the people to rejoice (v. 10). How do conviction and joy work together in spiritual growth?
5. The people celebrated the Feast of Booths for the first time in generations (vv. 13–18). What does this show us about the connection between God's Word and obedience?

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### Personal Reflection

- 6 Do you feel more conviction, joy, or both when you read the Bible? Why?
- 7 What is one step you can take this week to give God's Word a greater place in your daily life?

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### Prayer Focus

- Pray for a renewed hunger for God's Word in *The Gate*.
- Ask God to turn conviction into joy, and joy into obedience.

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**Your voice matters.** We'd love to hear what God is showing you through these questions. Please share your thoughts by emailing us at [info@thegateoc.com](mailto:info@thegateoc.com) — your insights will help shape the renewal and restoration of The Gate.