

BETWEEN SUNDAYS: *Weekly Recap*

Sunday, July 19, 2026

KEY VERSE: "And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel. - Nehemiah 8.1

BIG IDEA: The goal was never *really* about the reconstruction of a wall, but it was about the reconstruction of God's people.

SERMON RECAP: Nehemiah 8 reminds us that God's ultimate purpose was never merely rebuilding a wall but rebuilding His people through His Word. Nehemiah modeled humble leadership by using his platform to point people to God, demonstrating that position is only valuable when it serves God's purpose and leads to faithful practice. Introduce, Ezra! As we respond to God's Word with obedience, we discover that the past is a reference, not a residence, and true transformation happens when our platform and purpose become daily practice.

Monday: Platform Matters

Read: Nehemiah 8:1–4

Focus: Nehemiah had completed the wall, yet he willingly stepped aside so Ezra could open God's Word. Great leaders understand that their platform is never about promoting themselves, it is about pointing people to God. This week, ask yourself whether your influence is drawing others closer to Christ or simply drawing attention to yourself.

Tuesday: Purpose Over Position

Read: Nehemiah 8:5–8

Focus: Nehemiah never lost sight of the mission. The wall was never the finish line; it was simply the means God used to restore His people. When our purpose is centered on God's kingdom rather than our own success, we can hold our positions with humility and serve others with joy.

Wednesday: The Word Changes Hearts

Read: Nehemiah 8:8–9

Cross Reference: Hebrews 4:12

Focus: The people wept because God's Word exposed how far they had drifted. Scripture doesn't merely inform us, it transforms us. When we consistently place ourselves under God's Word, He lovingly reveals what needs to change and begins the work of restoring us.

Thursday: The Past Is a Reference, Not a Residence

Read: Nehemiah 8:9–12

Focus: Conviction is meant to move us toward hope, not keep us trapped in shame. God never intended His people to live in yesterday's failures but to rejoice in His grace today. Learn from your past, but don't live there.

Friday: Knowledge Must Become Practice

Read: 1 Corinthians 8:1–3

Focus: Biblical knowledge alone doesn't produce spiritual maturity. God's desire is that what we learn shapes the way we live, love, lead, and serve. Transformation begins when truth moves from our heads into our hearts and ultimately into our daily lives.

Saturday: Your Next Step Matters

Read: James 1:22–25

Focus: God rarely asks us to understand everything before taking the next step of obedience. Like Nehemiah, we are called to faithfully do what is right in front of us. This week, identify one truth God has shown you and intentionally put it into practice.