Sunday, September 12, 2021

"LEANING FORWARD"- Avoiding the pitfalls of starting over. This short series will look at the ministries of Ezra and Nehemiah and how they and others tried to rebuild Jerusalem after being in exile for 70 years. The successes, and failures they encountered, and what we can learn.



"Rebuilding My Relationships" Nehemiah 10:28-39

What is the first thing you do after you say, "Amen" in a prayer?

For review, read Nehemiah 9 again and watch for the steps Israel took in its restoration journey with God. Which one speaks to you the loudest? Which step do you usually skip?

Nehemiah 10 is now the "sign here" moment for Israel. They have spoken their hearts; it is now time to put their commitment into practice. (10:38)

Commitment #1 was a commitment to God honoring () (Nehemiah 10:30)

Commitment #2 was a commitment to honoring the () (Nehemiah 10:31) Commitment #3 was a commitment to () (Nehemiah 10:32-39) Of my time, talent and treasure which is easiest for me to commit to God? Which is hardest?

Commitment #4 was a commitment to () (Nehemiah 11:1)

Do I see myself as someone who keeps their commitments? Can you give an example_____?

What would others say about me? _____

What has hindered me in the past to making a commitment to God?

What will I do to move beyond that hindrance?

The scriptural word for commitment is "covenant." To "cut a covenant" meant that two people would swear an oath to each other to keep the promises they made with the understanding there would be consequences if the terms were broken. God ultimate covenant with us was sealed with the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. He takes his side of the covenant seriously.

This week would you take some time in prayer before God and ask him for help in keeping your side of your covenant with Him? Is there someone with whom you can share your answer?

Am I ready to start over in my relationship with God? _____

What will I do about my relationship with Him?