



Ripple the well sermon discussion guide

december 9 :: from reform to relapse



splash

Have you ever made a New Years Resolution only to break it two months later? How did it make you feel? How did you respond?



sink down

Nehemiah 11 lists the names of people who literally tithed their lives to things of God. They left behind the life they could have had in Persia to be a part of what God was doing in Jerusalem.

In what ways might God be challenging you to tithe your life in order to be a part of what He is doing?

read Nehemiah chapter 13 together

God's people are tempted (and eventually do) compromise their faith in some key areas of their lives. They allow an enemy of God to set up camp in the Temple. They forsake the Sabbath for the sake of financial gain by working and selling their goods on the Sabbath. They stop tithing and thus taking care of the Levites who were the spiritual teachers of the nation. They marry foreign women and therefore introduce the possibility of Idolatry (through the worship of foreign gods) into the nation.

In what ways are you most tempted to compromise your faith in order to satisfy your flesh?

Nehemiah is forced to get tough and become a disciplinarian in order to protect the people of God from themselves.

What safe guards, or boundaries do you have in place in order to protect yourself from falling into temptation?



reflection

We all, sooner or later, succumb to the flesh and fall to our temptations.

How do you usually respond after you fall?

Are you open to correction and discipline?

Are you teachable?

Do you respond defensively and rebel against any authority in your life? Why do you think this is?

Once you figure out what your "Holy Discontent" is, what is it going to take for you to maintain it for the long haul?

What is your biggest take away from our series on Nehemiah? How is this going to impact your life?