



**St Helen's
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Nehemiah Cares - Nehemiah 5: 1-12

Growth Group Questions

Read through Nehemiah 5:1-12 and pray that God would be at work by his Spirit during your time together.

1. Think of a time when you saw a community really care for one another - maybe neighbours, a team, or a workplace. What difference did it make? How did it feel to be part of it (or watch it)? What happens when a community stops caring for one another?
2. Nehemiah 5 shows us a moment where everything in Jerusalem looks like it's going well. The walls are going up, God's people are rebuilding, hope has returned. But under the surface there's a serious problem. God's people are hurting one another. What complaints do the people bring to Nehemiah in verses 1-5? Who is benefitting here?
3. What's going wrong here? Why is this such a big deal in God's eyes? (Maybe have a look at Leviticus 25:35-38)



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4. Can you think of modern examples where a community or church looks active and successful on the outside, but where people may still be neglected or hurt within? What could help us notice if it was happening around us?
5. How does Nehemiah react when he hears about the situation? What does he do before taking action? What's Nehemiah's biggest concern?
6. What does it mean to "walk in the fear of our God" in this context? How can our attitudes to others either honour or dishonour God today?
7. Why do you think Nehemiah cared so much about God's reputation? What might people today think about God if they see Christians being unkind or hypocritical?
8. If someone looked at our Church, or at our Growth Group, what might they conclude about what God is like?
9. What might it look like for our church to show real care? What about our growth group? What about you personally this week? What are some concrete things we can do to better care for each other?

Finish by praying for each other, and praying that God would show us how we can be even better at caring for one another.