



WEEK 3 OUR THEME THIS WEEK IS 'PARTNERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION'

The Scripture passage for your personal reading and reflection this week, as we continue our journey through Nehemiah ...

We've read the first three chapters of Nehemiah over the last two weeks – before we move on to the rest of the book, go back and re-read these three chapters this week, focusing on what the Spirit is saying to you personally, and to us, the people of Whangaparaoa Baptist Church, at this time ...

Look particularly at Nehemiah 1:4-11 ... 2:4-5 and 17-18 ... and all of chapter 3.

Nehemiah is like a bird that flies on two wings. One wing is his absolute security in the sovereignty and power of God. Everything rests on God's involvement with and leadership of His people. The other wing is his absolute conviction that people must intentionally engage themselves on God's behalf as they join together in what He is already doing.

This week's **questions** for personal reflection and/or group discussion:

- As we stop and pray and listen, what is God saying to us, His church, in this time?
- Are we prepared to come humbly before Him in confession, ready to make a new commitment to live according to His ways and will?
- Are we seeking God and becoming more in love with Him, so that we hear His voice and receive His calling to join Him as He renews His church?
- Have we reached that point where we have become dissatisfied with what has been, and are willing to embrace a different way ahead?
- What is God asking of us in preparation for the future?
- What is the vision He's placing in our hearts and minds, and calling us to outwork?
- How do we exhibit wisdom in bringing this about?

Have you watched this 8-minute **video clip** yet?

This Bible Project video gives a great introduction to and explanation of the book of Nehemiah (and its 'partner book', Ezra) ...



Are you interested in some **historical background** on the story of Nehemiah?

