

Monday (Dec 1 st)	<p><u>Scripture: Ezra 10:1-11</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the effect of Ezra's prayer on the people? What is Shecniah's message and its effect? 2. How does Ezra become convinced &, in turn, convince others that this is the will of God? Is he pulling rank, twisting arms, exercising wisdom, or what? (ref. verses 5-8; 7:25-28) 3. What is the connection here between repentance and hope? Between prayer & action? Between unilateral covenant and mutual agreement? Point of decision and process of implementation?
Tuesday (Dec 2 nd)	<p><u>Scripture: Ezra 10:12-44</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What compromise is proposed & why? With what opposition and why? Which view carries the day? Why? 2. Why do you suppose it took so long to process all the cases: (a) Judicial red tape? (b) Bitter foreign wives? (c) Fearful Israelite men? 3. Does your small group represent change to the larger church, or resist change to the larger church? How so? Over what issues do you covenant for change? 4. What does the total of 111 guilty men, their ex-spouses, & broken home do to you? How would you feel seeing your name listed here?
Wednesday (Dec 3 rd)	<p><u>Scripture: Nehemiah 1:1-11</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is Nehemiah so concerned about Jerusalem? What does he learn about its condition? 2. How does Nehemiah respond to the news? What does this say about his relationship with God? 3. What do you see of God's nature through Nehemiah's prayer? What does Nehemiah see in himself, the more he focuses on God? 4. How grieved are you about the physical & spiritual state of God's people?
Thursday (Dec 4 th)	<p><u>Scripture: Nehemiah 2:1-16</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why has it taken long for Nehemiah to express his grief? 2. What does he request King Artaxerxes to do? What three questions did the king have? 3. In Nehemiah's ready response, what do you see that demonstrates his practical wisdom? His dependence on God? On human resources? His respect for his superior?

Friday (Dec 5 th)	<p><u>Scripture: Nehemiah 2:17-3:32</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why do you think Nehemiah said nothing to those who would be doing the work until he had inspected the walls himself? Why inspect the walls at night? 2. What three points does Nehemiah make publicly to rally the troops to rebuild? How does Nehemiah respond to his opponent's charges? 3. How do you know if God is with you in some enterprise? 4. What attitudes and actions from Nehemiah's team of wall-builders fit Christians who want to build the church? Which ones should Christians avoid?
Saturday (Dec 6 th)	<p><u>Scripture: Nehemiah 4:1-23</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which gives you more difficulty: External criticism or internal fears? Why? 2. What is one area of your life where there seems to be so much rubble? In what ways are you cooperating with others or trusting God to build something out of the rubble?
Sunday (Dec 7 th)	<p><u>Scripture: Psalm 78:1-22</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A nation's history may teach many different lessons. From verses 1-8 what do you consider this psalm's main purpose is? What light do these verses throw upon the necessity and importance of family religion? (ref. Dt. 6:6-9, 20-25) 2. Who are the men of Ephraim? (ref. Jer. 31:5-6) Who does Ephraim come to symbolize as the list of the sins grow? How could anyone forget such acts of God? What difference should these miracles of the past make in their present lives?

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