

**READ:** (Nehemiah 8:1-12) - **'BUILDING BY THE BOOK'**

The people urged Ezra the Scribe and their spiritual leader at this time (Vs.1) to ***"Bring out the book."***

**Q.** WHEN and WHY should we bring out our Bibles?

**Q.** WHAT verse or passage from the Bible is particularly precious and WHY is it so special to you?

**(Vs.1-3)**

**Q.** WHAT do you think asking Ezra to *'bring out the book'* indicates to us about them and HOW might this impact on us?

**Q.** (1 Timothy 4:13) encourages the public reading of the Scripture, WHY do you think that is? (Isaiah 55:11)

**Q.** DOES the amount of time it took Ezra to read the word out loud and the attentiveness of the people to it, have any relevance to us in this soundbite generation?

**Q.** WHAT do you think we can do to increase our desire for the reading and study of God's Word?

**(Vs.4-6)**

**Q.** WHAT practical preparations today might be made to maximize the teaching, and proclamation of God's Word?

**Q.** WHY is having a heart that is prepared to receive from God's Word so important, and how might we be better prepared ourselves to hear from God's Word?

**Q.** HOW did the people of God respond to His Word here, and WHAT should the ministry of the teaching of God's Word inspire us to do if we are truly receptive to it?

(James 1:22)

**(Vs.7-8)**

- Q.** WHY do you believe that the Lord raises up specific individuals to help people understand God's Word?
- Q.** WHY is it so important to understand what the Bible is saying to us?
- Q.** WHAT should we be looking for from any teaching of God's Word, and HOW might this help us to grow in our understanding of the Scriptures?

**(Vs.9-12)**

- Q.** HOW can the Word of God pierce our hearts in such a way that we are overwhelmed with sorrow?  
(2 Corinthians 7:9-10)
- Q.** HOW can the gravity of our sin overwhelm us to the point that it overshadows Jesus being greater than our sin and WHAT brings proper perspective?
- Q.** HOW do we differentiate between how the devil uses false guilt to condemn us and the way the Holy Spirit uses true conviction to help us?
- Q.** WHAT is the joy of the Lord, and HOW is it our strength?
- Q.** WHAT have we got to celebrate because of God's Word to us?

**Shaun**