



Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia

St Mary's Cathedral

Making disciples of Jesus Christ

What's Next? (Nehemiah 7-8)

Nehemiah is famous for overseeing the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall, but it's done and we're only half way through the book!

Read Nehemiah 7:1-5

1. What is Nehemiah's next project?

Skim through Nehemiah 7:6-73 (*This whole section is a copy of Ezra chapter 2*)

2. What groups of people are particularly highlighted? Why do you think special attention was given to them?
3. Why do you think this this record, made 90 years before, was important or useful to Nehemiah?

Read Nehemiah 8:1-8

4. What do you notice about how the reading of the Law was organised?
5. What are we told about the people's attitude?

Read Nehemiah 8:9-12

6. Why do you think the people wept when they heard the Law?
7. What reasons were given for them to rejoice instead?

Read Leviticus 23:33-6; Deuteronomy 16:13-15 and 31:9-13.

Now read Nehemiah 8:13-18

8. What is admirable about the people's response to the Law?
9. *When is weeping a right response for the Christian to God's word? (See for example 2 Cor 7:8-10). How does the gospel bring joy from such sorrow?*