

## Joy in Obedience

Living in Community (Ezra-Nehemiah) Series – Nehemiah 8:1-18  
June 19, 2016, by Philip Pinto @ Village Bible Church

**Day 1:** Addressing the whole assembly (v.1-12).

- A. **Hunger** for the word (v. 1-5)
- B. Leading in **worship** (v. 6)
  1. Ezra: “praise the Lord!”
  2. People: worship, “Amen!” “Amen!”
- C. **Exposition** of the word (v. 7-8)
- D. People respond to **God’s Word** (v. 9-12).
  1. People weep and mourn (v. 9)
    - a) No direct explanation as to why
    - b) Admonition to not mourn because it was a **holy** day
  2. Instruction to celebrate (v. 10-11)
    - a) Nehemiah
      - i. The day is holy to the Lord
      - ii. Do NOT grieve
        - 1) The *joy* of the Lord is strength
        - 2) A clue as to the source of their mourning.
  3. Understanding the words, they responded **obediently** (v. 12)

**Day 2:** Addressing the family heads and other spiritual leaders.  
(v. 13-17).

- A. Ezra explained the feast of booths/ tabernacles (v. 13-15)
- B. The people went out to obey (v. 16-17)

**Days 15-23:** Addressing the whole company (v. 18).

- A. Ezra read every day for seven days.
- B. They assembled according to the regulation on the 8<sup>th</sup> day.
- C. Revival is birthed in **prayer** and nurtured by **God’s word**