

## DISCUSSION GUIDE 13

### *Nehemiah 11 and 12*

---

- 1 **Read Nehemiah 11:1–2.** In your own words, describe what is happening in this passage. For many people, moving into Jerusalem will require sacrificing agricultural income. It will also mean giving up their ancestral inheritance. Why do you think a blessing is associated with willingly offering to live in Jerusalem?
- 2 Has obedience to God ever cost you something? Has there ever been a time when following Jesus involved the loss of certain freedoms, security, or opportunities?
- 3 In reference to the previous question, why did you do choose to obey God? Was it worth it? Discuss.
- 4 Who is one person you know who is living all-out for Jesus? From an earthly perspective, what do you think this has cost them? Why do you think they live this way?
- 5 **Read Nehemiah 12:27–43.** Joy pervades this scene. We have seen celebrations in the story before, but not one like this. From everything we have studied so far, why do you think this occasion calls for a joyous celebration?
- 6 Just as the people's work in Jerusalem set the stage for the coming Messiah, so our work today anticipates Jesus' return. **Read Matthew 24:14 and Matthew 28:18–20.** What does it look like for you to obey Matthew 28:18–20 in light of Matthew 24:14? What do you sense God asking you to do in obedience to Him, even if it costs you something? What is your role in all of this? Discuss. End by praying for one another and the good works God has given each of you to do.

