

**The following questions correspond with The Voice of God sermon on Sunday, January 5. To listen to or watch this sermon, please visit [grace360.org/voice-of-God](http://grace360.org/voice-of-God).**

## Nehemiah 8

1. The nation of Israel was facing a string of bad decisions where they had chosen to be independent from God. Ezra, the priest and teacher of the Law, brought the Book of the Law of Moses to the town square and read it all day. And the people listened. As you prepare for The Year of the Bible, how are you preparing your ears to truly hear the Word of God?
2. Read Nehemiah 8:6-13 as a group. What was the reaction of the people as they understood the words of the Law?
3. As the people started to understand and be reminded of the Law, they began to weep. However, Nehemiah (the governor), Ezra and the Levites told them, "This day is holy to YHWH. Do not mourn or weep." As a group, talk about how you could respond this year as you explore the Word of God?
4. Read Nehemiah 9:1-3 as a group. How did the response of the Israelites change from their previous reaction?
5. Can you believe the turnaround here—from dirge to dance. The response from the people is morning and weeping after being convicted of their sins. Then they move to celebrate what God has done for them and restore their relationships with Him. The Bible has the power to change the mind of people. What are you doing to prepare your mind for change?
6. No one can have a great mind unless they feed it great thoughts, and there is no greater source of great thoughts in human history than the Bible. You are in charge of what you put into your mind and the quality of the mind you steward. How are you planning to use Bible timelines, study Bibles, reading plans or Walk Thru the Bible: The Old Testament to feed your mind great thoughts? How are you eliminating sources of information that are not so edifying?