

Celebration Dedication of the wall

Session 8



“At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps, lyres”

Nehemiah 12:27

UP: Introduction

- Can you recall a great celebration that you have attended? What happened and what was it for?
- Can you recall an experience of corporate praise and worship that particularly affected you? What was it that made such an impact?

IN: Explore

READ: **Nehemiah 12 v 27- 43**

Context:

With the temple and now the walls of Jerusalem complete, the people gather to celebrate their return from exile.

What was the significance of the completion of the wall?

What are the hallmarks of this celebration?
Suggestions : togetherness, joy/rejoicing, purification, thankfulness.

What does Christian joy look like?

How does being thankful affect our hearts and our minds?

How can we celebrate and be thankful in challenging times in our lives? What impact can that have on us?

John 2v19 - Reflect on Jesus and the gospel - the resurrection being the ultimate rebuilding of the temple and the gospel being a constant source of joy and thankfulness for us.

OUT: Impact

- Take time to thank God together for what he is doing in your lives - give the opportunity to share each other's stories and testimonies.
- Is there someone who you know who is struggling who you could reach out to and encourage this week?

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