

Elements of Real Revival

Part 2: Bring out the Book!

(Nehemiah 8:1-18)

I. There must be a **DESPERATE ATTRACTION** to the Word of God.

A. **Single-mindedness** (v.1a)

B. **Enthusiasm** (v. 1b)

C. **Attentiveness** (vv. 2-3)

D. _____

Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion . . . Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them.

Nehemiah 8:4-5a (NIV)

1. **There must be _____ for the Word of God.**

And as he opened it, the people all stood up.
Nehemiah 8:5b (NIV)

2. **There must be _____ with the Word of God.**

Ezra praised the Lord, the great God, and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Nehemiah 8:6 (NIV)

3. **There must be _____ before the Word of God.**

Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. Nehemiah 8:6 (NIV)

4. **There must be a _____ before the Word of God.**

The Levites . . . instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read. Nehemiah 8:7-8 (NIV)

II. There must be a _____ of the Word of God.

Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! James 1:22 (MES)

A. _____

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep. For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law." Nehemiah 8:9-10 (NIV)

B. _____

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength" . . . Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them." Nehemiah 8:10-12

C. _____

On the second day of the month, the heads of the families, along with the priests and the Levites, gathered around Ezra the scribe to give attention to the words of the Law. They found written in the Law, which the Lord had commanded through Moses, that the Israelites were to live in booths . . . So the people went out and brought back branches and built themselves booths on their own roofs, in their courtyards, in the court of the house of God and in the square by the Water Gate and the one by the Gate of Ephraim. The whole company that had returned from exile built booths and lived in them." Nehemiah 8:13-17a (NIV)

What does commitment to God demonstrate?

1. Your _____

2. Your _____

3. Your _____

D. _____

From the days of Joshua son of Nun until that day, the Israelites had not celebrated like this. And their joy was very great." Nehemiah 8:17b-18 (NIV)