



# Midweek Study

Dr. Josh Franklin • Senior Pastor

## REBUILDING my BROKEN WORLD

Through Nehemiah

# Getting Down to Business with God

## Nehemiah 9-10

Nehemiah 9:1–3 (NKJV) — 1 Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, in sackcloth, and with dust on their heads. 2 Then those of Israelite lineage separated themselves from all foreigners; and they stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. 3 And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for one-fourth of the day; and for another fourth they confessed and worshiped the LORD their God.

What Does it Mean to “Do Business with God”? Three steps:

### **I. CONFESSION (Nehemiah 9:5-37)**

To “confess” means to “say the same thing” as God, or to “agree with God”.

In chapter 9, the people confessed:

**God’s Faithfulness** (9:6, 8, 9-10, 15, 17, 19-21, 27b, 28b, 30-33)

**Man’s Failure** (9:16-18, 26, 28-30, 33-35)

- 1) In creation (9:5-6) See Psalm 14:1
- 2) In the calling of Abraham (9:7-8)
- 3) In the deliverance from Egypt (9:9-12)
- 4) When the commandments were given (9:13-18)
- 5) In the wilderness wandering (9:19-21)
- 6) Entering the Promised Land (9:22-25)
- 7) In their rebellion and disobedience (9:26-31)
- 8) In their plea for God’s mercy (9:32-37)

Central verse on confession: “But we have done wickedly. Neither our kings nor our princes, our priests nor our fathers, have kept your law, nor heeded Your commandments and Your testimonies, with which You have testified against them.” (9:33-34)

Confession of sin: see [1 John 1:8-10](#); [Proverbs 28:13](#); [James 1:14-16](#)

**Repentance** in Scripture:

- John the Baptist - **REPENT** ([Matthew 3:2](#) – after 400 years of silence)
- Jesus Himself – **REPENT** ([Matthew 4:17](#); [Luke 13:3, 5](#))
- The Disciples – **REPENT** ([Luke 24:46-47](#) – as part of the Great Commission)
- Peter – **REPENT** ([Acts 2:38](#) – on the Day of Pentecost; [2 Peter 3:9](#) – all repent)
- Paul – **REPENT** ([Acts 20:21](#))
- Jesus – **REPENT** or Else! (to 5 out of the 7 churches in [Revelation 2-3](#))

SIN: “I’m in charge and I don’t need God.” (The middle letter of SIN is “I”).

[Martin Luther](#) (95 Theses): #1 – When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said “REPENT”, He willed that the entire life of the believer be one of repentance. (October 1517)

## **II. COVENANT (TOGETHER) (Nehemiah 9:38-10:29)**

[Nehemiah 9:38](#) (NKJV) — “And because of all this, We make a sure covenant and write it; Our leaders, our Levites, and our priests seal it.”

[Nehemiah 10:29](#) (NKJV) — these joined with their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse and an oath to walk in God’s Law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and His ordinances and His statutes:

The building blocks of society are the families. The best way to impact society for good is the lead our families well. The building blocks of a strong church are the individual members. The best way to ensure our church is strong is to covenant together that we individually will be strong! The strength of a church is more than just the leaders. Church members covenant together to be the people of God, living for God, holy before God.

## **III. CONSECRATION (Nehemiah 10:30-39)**

- 1) We will **SEPARATE** from Unbelievers ([10:30](#)) See also [2 Cor. 6:14, 17](#); [John 17:14-18](#); [1 Peter 2:9, 11](#)
- 2) We will institute **SABBATH** Worship ([10:31](#))
- 3) We will **SUPPORT** Financially the House of God ([10:32-39](#))

***“We will not neglect the house of our God.” (v.39)***