

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – June 21, 2020**

**Theme: Nehemiah: A vessel of Restoration**

**Topic: Dedicated to God**

**Main Text: Nehemiah 12: 27-47**

**Key verse: Romans 12:1** – *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service”* (NKJV)

---

**INTRODUCTION:** The definition of the word ‘Dedicated’ implies the setting-apart of something or someone to a sacred use or service. In this regard, ‘Dedicated to God’ means *committing to* or *giving over someone or something* completely to God for His use or service. We see dedication featuring from the Old to the New Testament. In some instances, God is the One asking that someone or something be set apart for His service. Example is with the Levites (Numbers 3:45). In other cases, people chose to dedicate persons or things out of reverence for God or in fulfilment of their vows. So, Hannah dedicated Samuel to God (1 Samuel 1:26-28); David dedicated certain treasures to God (2 Samuel 8:11). So, after Nehemiah completed the restoration work, he and the people set a date to dedicate them all to God in a ceremony.

1. (a) **The priests and Levites purified themselves, the people, the gates, and the wall (Nehemiah 12: 30). What do you think necessitated this purification? (b) How does this apply to believers today? (c) In what form should believers today ‘purify’ themselves? See 1 Corinthians 1:30-31; 1 John 1:8-10.**

In a previous lesson under this theme, we saw how, even the enemies of Israel acknowledged God as the *doer* of this great work (Nehemiah 6:15). In appreciation to God, the people felt obligated to first dedicate the project to God who had made it possible and to give thanks in singing and dancing – with various musical instruments. Levites and singers were called from all the surrounding villages of Jerusalem. Not only that, Nehemiah had to organize the entire occasion so that it ran smoothly.

2. (a) **Nehemiah organized the people according to their skills and gifting; even appointing gate keepers. What can we learn from this? (b) What else do we learn from the way the dedication was organized? (c) How can we apply these to our local Church?**

It was a day of great joy for the people, *“...for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced; so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off”* (v.43). The people purified themselves, came with worshipful and joyful hearts. Not a select few came out to celebrate and dedicate the completed work but all (men, women, and children) were involved. No wonder *“the sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard from far away.”* (Nehemiah 12:43). And in that mood when everyone was focused on God, they saw the need to appoint officials to oversee certain neglected aspects of the temple. *“The people of Judah were pleased with the ministry of the priests and Levites.”* (Nehemiah 12:44) So, they seized the opportunity to remember and appreciate people who had shown great devotion to God’s work.

3. (a) **From verses 44-47, what category of people were singled out for appreciation and in what way were they appreciated? (b) How can we apply this lesson to our local Church? (c) Our key verse commands us to “present your bodies a living sacrifice...unto God, which is your reasonable service”. How did the Israelites do this on this occasion and how can we achieve this today?**

---

*Prayer: Lord, help me, each day, to dedicate readily and wholly all that I am and all that I have to Your service and for Your glory. In Jesus name. Amen.*