

CONNECT WITH THE MESSAGE

Nehemiah 9 – What Does it all Mean?

1) What was your favourite story as a child?

2) Read **Nehemiah 9 v1-38**.

a) Write down all the different ways God is described as gracious, compassionate, good etc.

b) Write down all the ways God shows his grace and compassion.

c) How do you think God has shown grace and compassion to you?

3) Read **Psalms 103 v1-22**

a) i) In what ways does this Psalm describe God's grace and compassion to us?

ii) What do you think might make God angry? Why?

iii) What does it mean for God to be gracious to us?

iv) In what ways does this Psalm describe God's forgiveness of us?

b) i) How would you describe God as presented in this psalm?

ii) In what ways does your view of God differ from how God is presented in this Psalm?

iii) What things might cause you to question or doubt God's grace and compassion? Why?

iv) What could you do to help you explore these questions/doubts?

c) i) How well does Jesus reflect the description of God in this psalm?

ii) In what ways does Jesus help resolve some of your questions/doubts in part b?

d) In what ways can you express God's grace and compassion to others?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read **Genesis 12v1-3; 17v7-8 and 22v15-18**

- a) Summarise the content of God's covenant promise to Abraham?
- b) How conditioned were these promises?
- c) How much were these promises fulfilled through Israel in the Old Testament?
- d) How are these promises fulfilled through Jesus?
- e) What are the implications of your previous answer for ethnic Jews and for the current nation of Israel?
- f) i) Where else does the New Testament explicitly deal with the questions raised in d) and e)?
ii) What do these verses say and how do they relate to your answers to d) and e)?
- g) Why do you think Abraham is such a big figure for the Bible's authors?
- h) How does both the Exodus and the Exile relate to God's promises to Abraham?

CONNECT IN PRAYER

Baptisms are on **Sunday 13th April**. Pray for the people getting baptised and for any guests that may be there on the morning.

CONNECT WITH CHURCH LIFE

The **Catalyst Festival** is on **Saturday 24th – Wednesday 28th May**. This promises to be an excellent time together with great worship, teaching, kids work and more!

For further information, and to book in, go to www.catalystnetwork.org/festival