



## **Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader**

*Gregory Brown*

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Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader is a fourteen week expositional study of the book of Nehemiah. It considers topics like the characteristics of a godly leader, a godly leader's priorities, cultivating a life of celebration, characteristics of revival, how a godly leader responds to discouragement, conflict, prosperity and promotion, the tactics of the enemy, and much more. Let's study it together with the Bible Teacher's Guide. "Helpful to both the layman and the serious student, The Bible Teacher's Guide, by Dr. Greg Brown, is outstanding!" -Dr. Neal Weaver, President of Louisiana Baptist University "I am happy that Greg is making his insights into God's truth available to a wider audience through these books. They bear the hallmarks of good Bible teaching: the result of rigorous Bible study and thoroughgoing application to the lives of people." -Ajith Fernando, Teaching Director, Youth for Christ; Author of A Call to Joy and Pain "The content of the series is rich. My prayer is that God will use it to help the body of Christ grow strong." - Dr. Min Chung, Senior Pastor of Covenant Fellowship Church (Urbana, Illinois)

## **Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader Details**

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Author : Gregory Brown

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## **From Reader Review Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader for online ebook**

### **Adrienna says**

This book was in great depth on the story of Nehemiah via in the Bible. I am not familiar with this character, only maybe a few passages read in sermons before. Gregory Brown has written a book that I would recommend for bible studies, diligent student who wants to learn and gain wisdom on this leader: Nehemiah thoroughly, and it is quite lengthy read. I would prefer it at least half as long in length.

I did take notes and obtained some of the nuggets shared in this reading.

I received a PDF copy from the author in a Christian Review Group.

\*I cannot find the copy to take more insight/notes.

Adrienna Turner  
Author of Begin with Christ

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### **Jodi Woody says**

Book Review for “Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader- Christian Non-Fiction

I was given a copy of “Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader” by the author in exchange for an honest review. This bible study is planned out well. It follows along with the book of Nehemiah, using New Testament scripture as well as Old Testament. I found it easy to follow along. It would work well as a bible lesson plan for a teacher, a group bible study, or as an individual one. Though I don’t agree with everything taught in this book ( the author believes that God makes people sick as a form of discipline, I don’t agree for He says that only the thief comes to kill, steal, and destroy. He also said that He came to bring an abundant life. Not to mention all the scriptures that show Jesus healing, and the ones that say He bore our infirmities and by His stripes we are healed. If God makes us sick, then we should never go to the doctor! That would be rebellion against God’s will), it still lays out some good lessons on becoming and continuing to be a Godly leader.

This is not a quick read. It will involve time in the word and some thinking and meditating on the scriptures. I give it three stars. Partly due to the doctrinal differences and partly due to the fact that some of the information seemed repetitive. Overall, I liked it.

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### **Dan Salerno says**

Gregory Brown has written a thorough, insightful and wise book. Based on the book of Nehemiah, Dr. Brown offers an in-depth analysis and outline for leadership development. Even if you aren’t a leader, this book offers incredible wisdom.

It is very readable, as Dr. Brown has written it in an outline form. It includes characteristics of leaders, how

leaders deal with discouragement, conflict and setting priorities as well as how to recognize signs of spiritual decay.

After each well-written chapter, there is a summation of the main points, along with application questions and a study group guide. The extensive bibliography at the end of the book shows that Dr. Brown has done his academic homework.

I highly recommend *Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader*.

\*I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.\*

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### **S.R. Piccoli says**

Yet another great addition to *The Bible Teacher's Guide* series by Gregory Brown. This time it's the book of the Book of Nehemiah's turn to be analyzed and studied in depth.

The Book of Nehemiah is somehow the second part of the Book of Ezra. Not by chance, as Brown himself reminds us, both the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the *Old Testament*) and the Latin Vulgate made them one book, calling Nehemiah "Second Ezra." The two books tell us about the time when the Jews returned from Babylonia to their own country called Judah. The Book of Ezra—a priest and scribe—is about the first two groups of Jews who returned to Judah, and how they built their temple again. The Book of Nehemiah tells the story of a man whose name was Nehemiah—a high official at the Persian court, sent by God in order to carry out a special task, namely to help the Jews to build the walls round Jerusalem again, despite the opposition of Israel's enemies. In turn, Artaxerxes, the king of Persia, appointed him as governor of Judah. The most important part of both Ezra's and Nehemiah's work, however, was showing the entire city that it should follow all of God's laws.

Nehemiah was "a man of great integrity who feared the Lord," and "a devout person of prayer." He also had "a strong awareness of God's sovereignty over all events," as Brown points out in the Introduction. But mostly, Nehemiah and Ezra were "great leaders who God called to work together." The first handled the practical aspects, the latter handled the spiritual. "As we consider them," writes Brown, "we cannot but remember other great leaders who God called to work together throughout the narrative of Scripture. God called Moses and Aaron, David and Nathan, Hezekiah and Isaiah, Paul and Barnabas..."

This leads us to focus on the "background" and the "purpose" of the book of Nehemiah: God's faithfulness to his promises—despite the fact that the people of Israel had disobeyed him and were exiled from the land, God remained faithful to his covenant with Abraham.

Among the major themes in the Book of Nehemiah are *opposition* (as soon as Nehemiah came to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, those who were profiting from Israel's misfortune began to antagonize and to mock both Nehemiah and the Israelites), *prayer* (as Nehemiah prays eleven times throughout the book), and *leadership* (Nehemiah motivated the Israelites to rebuild the wall that had been down for over 140 years, he "encouraged them to be faithful in the midst of persecution from without and turmoil from within").

Along with the previous volumes of the series, *Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader* is concise but thorough, scholarly enough for pastors but also simply as an expositional devotional, accessible to everyday Christians with thought-provoking and discussion-provoking questions. This book will be a very useful

resource for all those committed to knowing, communicating, teaching, and living out the Word of God in every aspect of life—as men and women, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, workers and community leaders. Highly recommended.

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### **SALLY WHITE says**

Thank you Goodreads for sending me this book. This is a very in depth review of the book of Nehemiah. Designed as a bible teachers guide, its not the sort of book I would normally read. However, I did find some of the interpretations & conclusions interesting. I would recommend it to anyone with an interest in gaining a comprehensive understanding of the book of Nehemiah.

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### **Margaret Welwood says**

"A leader is made by what he does in solitude, and a leader is broken down by what he does in solitude." (p.49)

How is it that a book written centuries ago can teach us how to live well today and tomorrow? As I watch the story of Nehemiah unfold before my eyes, Greg provides profound insights from both the Old and New Testaments. I learn the characteristics of godly leaders, and solutions for problems plaguing our families, churches and nations.

This book is accessible, even conversational, in tone, yet Greg clearly reverences God and His Word as he exhorts us to "servant leadership." The applications he draws from Scripture apply to all of us, whatever our station in life.

I appreciate his clear stance that although a godly leader exposes sin in others, "we must be aware of our [own] sin and constantly repenting of it" (p. 29). I find this to be a balanced treatment. Greg neither prescribes a "holier than thou" attitude, nor excuses sin by calling it by another name. Neither does he embrace the extremes of the "I am beautiful. I am loved," movement that almost seems to deny the possibility of sin in the believer.

Greg's on our team. "You have a very specific role," he tells us, and provides powerful principles for battling discouragement and slander, resolving conflict, and coping with prosperity that apply to any type of Christian service.

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" Proverbs 25:11 (KJV)--and there are many "fitly spoken words" in this clear, insightful and uplifting tribute to Nehemiah and the God he served.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Pamela Fernandes says**

This is a very intense read. You need to have your Bible with you. I never really liked Nehemiah. A man

building something. But after reading this book, it's been eye opening. For leadership I think it's fantastic. Things about prayer, wisdom, and discernment are explained in detail. How to deal with critics, backstabbers, liars, gossip and temptation. It's all very well explained. This is a fine book if you want to develop into a good leader. Must read for those in administration.

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### **David Ramos says**

Scripture is the sword of the Christian life.

Now a sword is a tricky thing. In the hands of someone trained to use it – it can be a deadly weapon and a strong defense. But in the hands of a novice, the wielder usually ends up only hurting themselves.

I appreciate any time I get to see a trained “swordsman” do their work and this book on Nehemiah is a beautiful example of that.

The book follows the story of Nehemiah as he answers the call of God rebuild the wall and faces dozens of trials along the way. The question the book tries to answer is “What is a Godly leader and how do we become one?”

The author does an excellent job of communicating the story of Scripture clearly as well as translating it into applicable, memorable takeaways. The writing is strong and clear and I came away knowing the story and lessons of Nehemiah immensely better than before I had read the book.

This is honestly one I plan to re-read in the future. If you’re looking for a no-fluff Bible study, definitely pick this one up.

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### **Ibiloye Christian says**

#### **★BECOMING A GODLY LEADER LIKE NEHEMIAH:**

A book, in the Bible Teacher's Guide series. Rich, concise, theological and expositional study and teaching guide for Bible Teachers and students.

I love the outline and the depth of the contents. The author highlighted the Big Ideas leading to the big question for each chapter and the two parts of the book.

Each section and discuss was ended by a conclusion after the Hermenautic questions; observation, application, and the interpretation questions were posed.

The primary purpose of the book of Nehemiah is to show God's covenant of faithfulness to Israel and to challenge godly leaders to respond to the problems of spiritual decay, sin of disobedience, and compromise of the children of God and the Church.

The Author believed to be Ezra, documented the rebuilding of the walls, revival and rededication of Israel to God's covenant.

It gives the signs of compromise as: decreasing worship and devotion time, compromised leadership, misuse of money, and worldliness or worldly relationship.

The book gives insights into the tactics of the enemy, and challenge one to find out why the enemy persist with a particular tactics.

We must constantly be in the word, to be able to recognize sin and be able to make grace effective in

overcoming sin.

Also, leaders must spend time with the people they lead that they may know how to help them and the real impact of their leadership; style, purpose and effectiveness.

We must rely on God to fix leadership problem.

The author challenged one to be an agent of change and godliness, and to fix the area of compromise in one's life.

The guide can be used as a manual (using the suggested outlines) or a resource while preparing for teaching a small Bible study group, and in expositional or personal devotional study of the book of Nehemiah.

The Bibliography at the end part of the book is quite a great help too.

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### **Rebecca Livermore says**

If you want to really grasp the depths of the truths found in the book of Nehemiah, this book is for you!

Though I've read the book of Nehemiah several times, this book helped me to see it in a whole new way. As I read, I found myself highlighting many parts of the book and making notes, as God spoke to me about situations in my own life. There was so much of value in the book that I know I'll return to it again to ponder the things that stood out to me.

The thing that I appreciate the most about the book is the strong emphasis on the Bible. That may seem like a no-brainer for a book about a book of the Bible, but so many Christians (including pastors and authors) have strayed far away from truly believing and teaching what the Bible actually says. It was refreshing to read a book that didn't compromise truth.

It truly is a great book for Bible teachers, or for any believer that really wants to dive deep into what the book of Nehemiah is all about.

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### **Peter Meredith says**

Becoming a Godly leader is a subject that just isn't talked about these days. Let alone written about, however Gregory Brown does just that in his continuing series: The Bible Teacher's Guide. In this book he concentrates on lessons gleaned from The Book of Nehemiah.

I can honestly say that I have whisked right past Nehemiah on many occasions while hunting down "racier" aspects of the Bible, however Greg opened my eyes to what I was missing. One aspect is the idea that God's leaders are 'prayer warriors' and I love how Greg lays out the many benefits to praying.

He also fills the book with great quotes. This one held a very scary truth: "I have at times struggled with pride, apathy, and lack of self-discipline...The same root that causes murder, rape, bribery, and other injustices are all in me."

And this from scripture: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24). Greg explains that David knew that we have a tendency to be blind to our sins, especially sins of our hearts.

The necessity of this book can not be more obvious in today's world. I think this should be considered must reading by any one looking to teach God's word.

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### **Kristin Spencer says**

This book is a great resource to Bible teachers and small groups, but it is so simple that anyone could read it and gain understanding. That is one of the things I love the most about this book, is it's accessibility. The Biblical principles of leadership that Gregory Brown explores and expands on from the book of Nehemiah have the potential to change the world. If every leader would allow the principles in this book to shape their lives and leadership styles, we would see a great change, and even as Brown suggests many times, revival.

“Jesus said when the church is unified, we will see many souls come to Christ; the world will know that Jesus came from God... Sadly, most ministries swing to the other extreme. Most churches and ministries work very independently. In fact, they are often so worried about losing members that they never work with other churches at all. However, when you look at the early church, which also experienced revival, they were very unified.”

After reading this book, I can confidently state that Brown is a brother in the Lord that wants to see the lives of many transformed by the love of God through servant leadership. He discusses important topics such as unity, dealing with discouragement, leading by example, serving even when we don't like the job or feel qualified, the importance of dealing with conflict instead of overlooking it, and how to deal properly with the provision God has given us.

This book would a blessing to any believer that wants more clarity on what it means to faithfully serve Jesus Christ, whether they are in leadership or not.

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### **Becky Durstenfeld says**

This book was OK. It had some good points, but was repetitive and we felt sometimes he was stretching to get a point from the passage. The chapters were too long. Sometimes the points he made were really for every believer, not specifically for leaders.

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### **Whitney L. Wagner says**

Gregory Brown goes above and beyond in this Bible Teacher's Guide book, looking at the intimate details behind the book of Nehemiah and examining the historical context during which this book of the Bible was written. Brown looks at Nehemiah as a great leader during the time of rebuilding of Jerusalem. While we are taught in Sunday School that Nehemiah led the rebuilding effort, we are rarely told that we can truly learn anything substantial from his example.

Brown's focus in this book is to find out what makes Nehemiah special enough to be included in the Bible and how his leadership influenced the nation of Israel. Throughout his thorough examination of this important biblical leader, Gregory Brown provides in-depth questions for leaders to examine, discuss, and apply to their own roles in leadership.

Nehemiah: Becoming a Godly Leader is a fantastically written book that truly examines all qualities of a great biblical leader and allows church leaders to examine their own lives so that they can emulate this

behavior. This book should be on every church leadership's required reading. Going through the book not just individually but also as a group will allow ordinary leaders to grow into transformative biblical leaders that truly make a difference not just in their local churches but in the lives of their communities as well.

There is so much more to Nehemiah than what meets the eye, and I am certain that all who read this book will come out with so much more understanding of this biblical character and his journey in this short, yet powerful, book of the Bible.

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