

## **The Invitation**

**Fill out a pew card with a prayer request  
Put them in the Offering Plate**

**Come at 6:30pm  
OCTOBER 27**

## **The House of Prayer**

**Join in  
The Word  
Confession  
And Prayer  
Be a Nehemiah**

# Keeping Unity Nehemiah 5:1 - 19

UNITY



Church Family



**Unity is**

**Incredibly Powerful**

**Yet**

**Fragile**

**Requiring Intentional Work**

## **Blind from Within 5:1-5**

- **Unity is incredibly powerful but needs constant vigilance. “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Eph.4:3**
- **Settling the manner of fighting the battle from without, now the battle shifts to confuse and destroy unity from within... even from our own disobedience rooted in cultural “acceptability.”**
  - **The Blind Spot: The Evil One is concealed. (confusion, “spin” on thoughts and feelings)**
  - **The Intimidator: The Evil One brings division, tragedy, “hard” life stuff to quench our faith**
  - **The Deal: The Evil One uses boredom and we fear a fresh battle, the “one more thing”.**

## Unjust Leadership 7-8

- Leaders who prospered from Ezra's time and were content with their own "blessed" lives.
- Leaders who exploited crisis and used risk to their own advantage.
- Leaders who ignored God's plan for life risks and the 7<sup>th</sup> year of Jubilee.

## Faithful Truth 9

- This is not right. You have a Temple but you disgrace God by refusing to live in honor and obedience to Him.
- You see my example – I lend without gouging and in fairness. 10

**The Blessing of Unity**

**Is a Clear Result**

**Obedience**

**Loving Others**

**Intentionally**

# **Now Commit to the Solution 11**

- **Return the property, repay the usury you have demanded. (Agape)**
  - **What is it we have demanded from our family, our church? In what ways have we held hostage the flow of the Holy Spirit?**
- **Lets make this commitment accountable before all involved. In doing so the illusion of power in secrecy will be replace by the deep spiritual power of transparency. 12**
- **Lets make this accountable before God. The price of disobedience is sin's already curse from God, a removal of blessing. 13**

# A Heart Bigger Than the Minimum

- Avoid entitlements which become entangled with perceptions of “superiority.”
- Lay down our rights for our brother, unity is a high cost. 14-15
- The Holy Heart stays focused on the Mission.

**The Holy heart cares about Walls and Gates releasing and protecting the grace of God.**

**Serve Others**

**OUR GOD WILL FIGHT FOR US**



**The Holy Heart Cares**

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**Serve Others**

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