

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Sunday, November 1, 2020
Nehemiah 13

1. What happened in Wednesday's Bible Study in Nehemiah 12? _____

2. What does the text tell us happened in 13:1-3? _____

3. Oh boy, here we go again. Why couldn't the Ammonites and Moabites be admitted to the assembly of God, according to 13:1-3 (See also Deuteronomy 23:3-6, Numbers 22-25 and Revelation 2:14)?
 - a. Man, it just seems like God picks his favorites. Some people he likes and other people are just out! Who can follow a God like this?
 - b. Well, there is very clear reasons for this command in Deuteronomy. It has to do with how they have treated Israel and what they are likely to do. For generations they have opposed Israel...and often in a way that is subversive and dishonest. They infiltrate and then lead Israel astray. It is safer to have a known enemy than someone who says they're your friend and comes into your assembly only to cause your downfall.
4. Surely, these people had changed and were worthy of another chance! How long had it been since all of that happened? Why was all of this important, according to 13:4-9 (See also Nehemiah 4:3)?
 - a. Well, apparently Tobiah was an Ammonite.
 - b. Tobiah seemed to be using the same sort of tactics we talked about...subversive...making friends who give him access and betraying Israel. It is described by his special privileges in the temple and it was described in chapter 6.
5. What else did Nehemiah learn during his absence, according to 13:10-13? _____
_____Why was this a big deal? _____
_____Should this still matter to us today? Yes_____ No_____ Explain. _____
_____What did Nehemiah do about it? _____
6. What prayer does Nehemiah utter in verse 14 with regard to his actions? _____

7. What is so significant about what is happening in verses 15-31?
 - a. Well, he's correcting things that they were doing wrong.
 - b. Wait, isn't this the same stuff that they had just committed to fix chapter 10?
 - c. It didn't take long for the people to forget what they had committed to God.
 - d. When the cat's away, the mice will play! As soon as Nehemiah left town, they compromised on their commitments.
8. What do you do when nobody is watching over you? Do you keep your commitments?
