






Small Group/ Reflection Notes

27-06-2021		Movement, not Monument	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> What is the one thing that you can always rely on to motivate you if your get up and go has got up and gone?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> Nearly all of us use a mobile phone nowadays; are there drawbacks to having access to a world of information at our fingertips? <input type="checkbox"/> What have you missed about not being able to gather as a church? What difference will it make to you when you can come back?		
 Read	Nehemiah 8:1-18	 Listen again	ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> v.1: Why does Ezra choose the Water Gate , the Gihon spring, as the backdrop to his reading of the book of the law? What could this symbol mean for us a church and as individuals? <input type="checkbox"/> v.3: How does the writer recording the events of the day indicate that the gathering was inclusive? How do we make our gatherings inclusive at Chester Road? <input type="checkbox"/> v. 4: Why was Ezra on a raised platform? <input type="checkbox"/> v.7-8: What role did the Levites take? How do we echo this with our small groups? What difference does being part of a small group make to your experience of church life and your faith journey? <input type="checkbox"/> v. 9: What was the effect of hearing the scriptures read aloud? Why do you think they responded in this way? <input type="checkbox"/> v.10-12: How does Ezra encourage the community to respond? Why do you think this was? <input type="checkbox"/> v.13-17: How does Ezra remind the returners that God made them to be pioneers, not settlers? How is the tabernacle symbolic of the Israelites' purpose as a movement, not a monument? How could this be true for us as a church? And in our personal faith journeys? <input type="checkbox"/> v.18: What is the focus and the purpose of the gathering? How can we anchor our return to the church building on the real purpose of our church: Jesus?		
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> Read Hebrews 4:12: When have you been aware of God's word speaking to you directly? What difference does it make to your life? <input type="checkbox"/> What might get in the way of God speaking to you through His word? What steps will you take to guard against this? <input type="checkbox"/> How do you reconcile some of the more uncomfortable [often Old Testament] passages of scripture with your understanding of God?		
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> What is God putting on <i>your</i> heart?		

 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorise a verse or passage of scripture this week. <input type="checkbox"/> Revisit a familiar part of the Bible and ask the Holy Spirit to show you something new.
 Pray	<p><i>Dear God,</i> <i>Thank you for the way your word _____ . Help me/ us to keep _____ . When I/ we feel challenged or discouraged, help me to remember _____ . Speak to me. Please remind me daily that _____ . May Your Kingdom come, and Your will be done. Amen.</i></p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk