

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Almost everyone likes to celebrate. Joyful celebrations are sometimes far and few between. The record in chapter 12 gives both an example of celebration at a very special time and principles for living with an ongoing celebration of God's goodness. Read 12:27-47 identifying parts of both aspects.

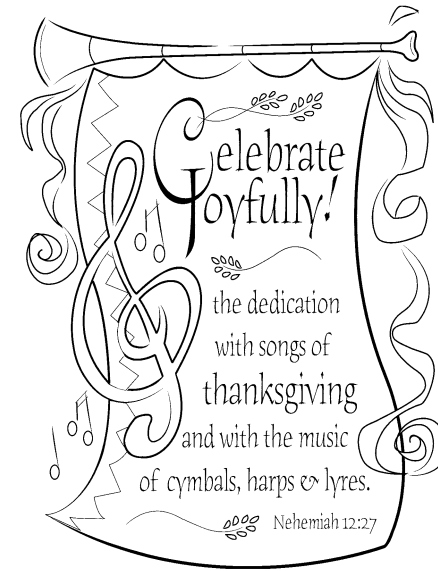
Tuesday. Part of the foundation for life-changing praise and sacrifice is recognizing and living the truth that holiness comes before true happiness. As with the people in verse 30, *purifying* yourself focuses on your heart and relationship to God. 1 John 1:9 speaks about confession and cleansing for believers. Get and keep up to date with God.

Wednesday. The second part of the foundation for life-changing praise and sacrifice is to have a willing commitment to celebrate what God has done (see 12:27-30). Sometimes big problems, the repetitive routine or busyness of life crowd out seeing, let alone celebrating God's goodness. Make a commitment to yourself and to God to look for and celebrate even the smallest evidences of His goodness each day.

Thursday. Today review the praise and sacrifice that is life-changing and the dramatic change that brings (see the outline). Try to picture that great celebration of praise and the sacrificial giving that was with it. How does this apply to your relationship to leaders ... in the workplace, government and church?

Friday – Saturday. Next Sunday we plan to complete our journey through Nehemiah with chapter 13 that deals with avoiding careless compromises and maintaining purity. Read the chapter in preparation for our time together.

Worship In Proclamation



November 20, 2005

"Celebrating God's Goodness"

Series: *Nehemiah*, #9

Nehemiah 12:27-47

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

Knox Evangelical Free Church

"Celebrating God's Goodness"

Nehemiah 12:27-47

Theme: **Praise And Sacrifice Will Change Your Life.**

The Foundation For Life-Changing Praise And Sacrifice.

1. Holiness comes before true happiness. (30)
2. A willing commitment to celebrate what God has done. (27-30)

The Praise And Sacrifice That Is Life-Changing.

1. The celebration of praise. (31-43)

2. The celebration in sacrifice. (43)

The Dramatic Change.

1. Joyful celebration ... even for your leaders! (44-45)
2. Joyful giving ... even for your leaders! (44-47)