



## Background

When Nehemiah heard of Jerusalem's horrible condition, he prayed to the Lord for wisdom and then approached King Artaxerxes for the chance to return and rebuild the walls (1:1-2:10). Once back in Jerusalem, Nehemiah inspected the walls and motivated the people to undertake the work (2:11-3:32). Not everyone was pleased with the progress, however. Opposition to God's people arose, yet Nehemiah persevered in the work (4:1-23). In Nehemiah 5, a new challenge arises—conflict within the community.

## Study Questions

*Read Nehemiah 5:1-19*

1. What caused the outcry within the community?
2. What did Nehemiah do in response to the outcry?
3. What was the result of Nehemiah confronting those who were perpetuating injustice?
4. How did Nehemiah set the example for the rest of the people?

## Application Questions

1. Why do you think some people turn a blind eye to the injustices happening around them?
2. When have you been tempted to ignore injustice? Why is it important for God's people to pursue justice?
3. How can we set an example of godly living and leadership for those around us?
4. How does the gospel demonstrate the clearest demonstration of God's justice while also holding out the hope of forgiveness and restoration?