Bring It Home

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Lesson Theme: "It's Time To Celebrate!"

Scripture: Nehemiah 8:1-10

Memory Verse: Nehemiah 8:10b "Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Teachers/Parents: We got our lesson started by talking about various holidays and the reasons why we celebrate those holidays. What are some of your favorite holidays and why do you like them?

Discussion Questions:

- 1) In **Nehemiah 8:1**, we are introduced to Ezra for the first time in the book. What we learn from the book of Ezra is that God was using Ezra as a spiritual leader during all of the events of Nehemiah. Read **Ezra 7:10**. What three things describe Ezra in this verse? Do any of these describe you? Why or why not?
- 2) In class we talked about how Ezra and Nehemiah were a **dynamic duo** during this time of biblical history. Ezra was appointed to be the spiritual leader while Nehemiah was appointed to be the political leader. Together they brought about revival in Israel. Can you think of any other dynamic duos in the Bible? Read **Exodus 7:5-7** for one example.
- 3) Read **Luke 10:1-2**. How did Jesus send His disciples out? Why do you think that He did it this way?
- 4) Read **Nehemiah 8:2-3**. What did the people do for several hours? Notice that even children (in certain Bible translations) are mentioned as participating here. What do you think was happening in the hearts of the people to be able to listen and learn so attentively for so long?
- 5) Read **Nehemiah 8:9**. After hearing the word of God spoken and explained to them, it says the people began to weep. Why do you think they responded like this? **Parents:** Consider sharing with your kids examples when God's Word has brought you to tears.
- 6) In **Nehemiah 8:10**, what were the people told to do? What are some ways that you can CELEBRATE God's grace and lovingkindness to you this week?