**Questions for further consideration:**

Nehemiah 5 is all about resolving problems between God's people, even as we try to rebuild others lives.

**1.)** How do you see economic disparity between people in the church challenging our unity? How can it potentially create greater unity?

**2.)** This chapter deals a lot with debt that many were becoming enslaved to just to survive. What do the following passages have to say about debt and the people of God? How should the Jerusalemites have handled their poverty problems differently? What are the principles of dealing with people in poverty from these passages that could guide the church in ministering to the poor in the church? In the culture? See Deut. 23:19-20; 24;10-13; Ex. 22:25-27; Lev. 25:35-46; Jer. 22:13 -19; Amos 2:6-7; 5:11-12.

**3.)** Nehemiah delivers a pretty strong, public rebuke and call to change in Neh. 5:6-13. How would you have reacted if you had been the offending party then? The indebted and enslaved party then? TODAY: How should spiritual leaders exercise rebukes publicly today when it comes to righting wrongs among God's people? How do you think such rebukes would be received by most church people? By you? What changes might need to take place in how we view and experience church in order for this to work?

**4.)** The command in Hebrews 13:7, "Obey your leaders and submit to them," frightens many Christians. What limits apply to both leaders and people that can help us obey this passage? When is it to leave a church? When is it wrong? What should we do and not do if we lose trust or confidence in church leaders? Is it ever God's will for us to separate ourselves from church for a long period of time?

**5.)** In Nehemiah 5:14-19 we see Nehemiah's role modeling in leadership. What was it? Why is this so important for a leader? What leaders do you know or have known who you respect because of what they model, not just what they say? In what areas of life are you seeking to model good leadership to others? How do you feel that is going?

**6.)** Paul had a similar challenge with the Corinthians. Read 2 Cor. 11:21, 23-30 and 12:16-21 in *The Message* translation. (You can go to www.biblegateway.com to find any passage in multiple translations.) Also read I Cor. 13. Take time to ask God to speak to you about any relationships in your life that are experiencing tension and problems. How might God be calling you to change the way you relate to them? Journal about that or share what you think God is asking you to do with your small group.

**7.)** What can you do to guard and build the unity of Mosaic while we seek to rebuild our city?

MOSAIC FELLOWSHIP

**January 25, 2015,**
**Speaker: Dr. John Repsold**
**Nehemiah 5**

## Reconstruction Zone: Loving Hearts Required!

**Discussion Questions can also be found on www.mosaicspokane.com**