

Pastor Roy's Sermon on Nehemiah 11:1-36 (September 23, 2026)

—Below are questions from that lesson to further our understanding—

1. The people cast lots to determine who would move to Jerusalem, trusting that God would guide the outcome as described in Proverbs 16:33 -- in what areas of your life do you struggle to surrender decision-making to God, and what would it look like to trust Him more fully in those areas?
2. Those chosen by lot to move to Jerusalem were blessed and lifted up in prayer by the community -- how intentional are you about honoring and interceding for those in your church or community who are called to difficult or sacrificial roles?
3. Psalm 84:10 expresses a deep longing to serve God even in the smallest capacity rather than live apart from Him -- what does your own level of desire to be in God's presence and serve Him reveal about the current state of your heart?
4. The sermon points out that priests and Levites lived outside Jerusalem because people in surrounding communities needed spiritual leadership -- how are you fulfilling a role of spiritual influence in the everyday, ordinary community where God has placed you?
5. The worship leaders in Nehemiah's time held a critically important yet often criticized role -- how do you personally approach corporate worship, and are you genuinely focused on glorifying God or are personal preferences shaping your attitude?
6. The sermon emphasizes that worship is entirely about God and not about the individual worshiper -- in what practical ways can you cultivate a heart posture that consistently redirects your worship away from personal comfort and toward God?
7. Men like Daniel, Mordecai, Nehemiah, and Pethahiah served in secular positions while remaining rooted in godly character and lineage -- how are you stewarding your influence in your workplace or civic life as a reflection of your faith?
8. The agricultural communities outside Jerusalem were essential to sustaining those inside the city, illustrating that every role in the body of Christ carries equal importance -- do you genuinely believe that your role in your church community is indispensable, and how does that belief shape how you serve?
9. God's promise through Jeremiah to restore Judah and Israel was visibly fulfilled in the repopulation of Jerusalem -- how does reflecting on God's faithfulness to keep His promises in Scripture strengthen your confidence in His promises for your own life?
10. Some Levites were assigned to live among tribes other than their own, being called to sacrifice personal preference for the greater good of the whole community -- what is God currently asking you to lay down or adjust for the sake of unity and the flourishing of others around you?