

# NEW YEAR, SAME WORD: Letting the Word of God lead Us to Joy

## NEHEMIAH 8

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media:

### *The Word of God will Always Lead Us to Rejoice*

#### **1. The Word, Leads us to Worship (1-6).**

#### **2. The Word, Leads to us Repentance (7-9).**

#### **3. The Word, Leads us to Obedience (9-12).**

#### **4. Obedience, Leads us to Joy (13-17)**

### ***Nehemiah 8:8-12***

They read out of the book of the law of God, translating and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was read. Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all of them, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go and eat what is rich, drink what is sweet, and send portions to those who have nothing prepared, since today is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, because the joy of the Lord is your strength." And the Levites quieted all the people, saying, "Be still, since today is holy. Don't grieve." Then all the people began to eat and drink, send portions, and have a great celebration, because they had understood the words that were explained to them.

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### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. How should a believer react to the Word of God in his or her life? Do you find great joy in being obedient to the Lord, or does it feel more or less burdensome?
2. Is repentance a bad thing? Why is it good for the Christian to think of their depravity often? When was the last time you went to God in repentance? Is the “joy of the Lord your strength?”
3. What are some steps in your life you can take right now to become more obedient to the Word of God? Are you willing to do these things in your life, so that your joy may increase?

### ***Quote for the Week***

by Jesus Christ

*If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.*

*“I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.*

***John 15:10-11***