



## Raising Up a Standard | Nehemiah 9-10 | November 24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Warm-up:** What's the scariest car drive you've ever taken? Were guardrails in place?

- In **Nehemiah 9** and **10**, the leaders recognized that the nation's main problem was *not* military strength but spiritual disobedience. An agreed upon written code was then developed, vowing for God's people to pay attention to the Law and the Temple. (See **Neh. 9:38** and **10:28-29**)
  - What heart-level reaction do you have at the thought of establishing *specific* core-standards to help govern various aspects of your life?
  - Personally share how established (even written) beliefs, convictions, or boundaries have helped you succeed in any aspect of life.
- Andy Stanley gives 2 questions to ask of any vision (marriage, family, business, organization, ministry, project etc.)
  - 1) What could we do that, if done consistently, would provide the greatest potential for our success? ("*We must always do...*")
  - 2) What could we do that (negatively) would guarantee we never see our vision materialize? ("*We must never do...*")
    - Take 5 minutes to answer these two questions about the top vision, dream, or life-issue you are currently most occupied with. Share as you feel led.
    - Could you hold one another accountable to come back next week having answered these questions in more depth?
- Skim through *The Levite's Psalm* recorded in **Neh. 9:5-38**. This poem recounts God's gracious actions among His people throughout the years.
  - What verses or phrases minister to you most? Why?
  - Has recounting God's faithfulness and sovereign hand in your life ever led you to confession of sin, worship, or renewal? How so?

**Wrap-up:** In what ways do you sense the Lord is asking you to become more "blessable"? Consider issues like unresolved relational conflict, mishandled finances, or purity. Read **2 Chronicles 16:9a** before you close in prayer.