

Read: Nehemiah 8:1-12

DAY 4  
Thursday, July 16, 2020

## Words of Life

*“And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.”* Nehemiah 8: 12

“That’s it. I’m done.”

Things were not going well for me or the rest of the C.M.& I.Crusaders, so I was ready to “*throw in the towel.*” My jump shot wasn’t falling, my passes were off target and the other point guard was scoring at will. We were a half step slow and the other team seemed to know our playbook. Nothing was going well for me or the team. So, after committing a particularly egregious foul I raised my hand to signal that I was the culprit and to coach Sanders that I wanted out of the game. Coach called a time out and “*encouraged*” us, telling us the game wasn’t over and calling for a “*full court press*”. His words prompted us to stage a miraculous rally.

Like the Mighty Crusaders, the people of God in Nehemiah were ready to throw in the towel. The fragile remnant in Jerusalem had struggled mightily until God sent holy men to rebuild. Nehemiah led the effort to rebuild the temple while Ezra led the rebuilding of the temple. Realizing the need for revival, Ezra called a solemn assembly for the reading of God’s Word. The reaction of God’s people is notable for how they *reverenced*, *received* [took to heart] and *responded* to the Word of God. The law showed the people their spiritual condition, causing them to weep; but it also sowed the seeds of revival, prompting them to rejoice. What happened then can happen now. When we reverence, receive and respond to God’s Word, we too can experience true revival. -HVC

## Seeking the Hand of God

*Pray Today for ...*

*Healing* for COVID-19 Victims

*Strength* for Medical Workers

*Victims* of Social Injustice and Crime

*Financial* Casualties of COVID-19

(Unemployed and Underemployed)

*Schools*, Students and Educators

*Leaders* at Local and National Leaders

(Civil & Spiritual)

*Churches* (Role, Resources and Responsibilities)