Populating Priorities

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1.   Nehemiah 7:1 gives 3 types of leaders that had been appointed in Jerusalem to advance its progress: security officers (gatekeepers), worship leaders (singers) & teachers (Levites). As we seek to "experience the heart of God in the heart of our city," how are these same 3 groups of people necessary? Why? What group/role/responsibility do you think God is most likely to call you to do? What is keeping you from doing that role now?

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

Questions for further consideration:

2.   Raising up the next generation of leadership was important to Nehemiah. According to Nehemiah 7:2-4, what qualities were most important for those leaders? What are the parallels with church leadership today? Where are you personally in relation to these qualities?

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3.   Much of Nehemiah 7:1-4 has to do with protection issues of the city. In what ways are we called to protect our city & the people of God in it today? From whom or what? In what ways does Christ call us *not* to guard or protect ourselves when it comes to strengthening our city?

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4.   Why was this long list of names & number of people in Nehemiah 7:5-65 important to God & Nehemiah? What does its presence in Scripture indicate to you about what should matter to us today when it comes to a strong community of God's people?

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5.   Figure out from Nehemiah 7:70-72 how much gold & silver was given for the rebuilding of the city & what its current day value would be. Why do you think God prompted Nehemiah to include that information in His Word? Why is generous giving so important throughout the Bible to God, to His people & to God's work?

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6.   Nehemiah 7:1, 4 & 73 indicate that most of the people who gathered at Jerusalem to worship in the Temple were actually living outside of Jerusalem. What comparisons exist with this & what Mosaic is called to do in Spokane? What are the challenges we have as a commuting citizenry in God's church of Spokane?

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7.   Looking at the priorities presented in this chapter (Neh. 7), which ones do you think are our strengths? Which need more work? How will you help that process?

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