



Sermon Notes: The Sparks of Renewal

1. Compassion.

2. Contrition.

- First, he magnified the greatness of God's glory.
- Second, he magnified the greatness of his sin.

3. Commitment.

- 1) To the Word of God.
- 2) To prayer.
- 3) To the glory of God's name.

4. Courage.

5. Curiosity.

6. Confidence.

7. Christ.



Gospel Applications: The Sparks of Renewal

Discuss.

1. What did you know about Nehemiah (the person and the book) prior to beginning this study?
2. What are some things that are hindering spiritual renewal in our culture? What are the dead/broken/fallen things that have choked out the fresh, healthy, new growth of the Spirit?
3. Same questions as #2, but make them more personal. What are these hindrances to renewal in your life?
4. Which of the 7 sparks of renewal is/are most obvious to you? Which is/are not as obvious? What "sparks" would you add to this list from other portions of Scripture?
5. With these 7 sparks of renewal, where do you think the Church is weak and needs growth? Where are you weak? How will you grow in this area?
6. What are the top 3-5 things you're committed to? How do these commitments determine where you're willing to spend your time/money? How do they determine what sacrifices you're willing to make?
7. Discuss this point about curiosity. What's an area in your life that you need to approach less as an expert and more as a student? What would it look like to study this from "the enemy's perspective"?
8. How does seeing Jesus as the True and Greater Nehemiah change this story for you? How does that one point enable the other six?

Pray.

1. Confess where your life has become cluttered by things that hinder renewal. Ask the Lord for new, healthy growth in these places.
2. Boast in the greatness and awesomeness of God. Read the Kathy Keller quote on the opposite side and pray in response to the truth she reveals.