

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

*Accompanies podcast "Joy" - 7/19/20
at www.newdaynw.com/sermons*

Read Nehemiah 12:27-43

What is the last major milestone you celebrated? Do you find it easy to make joy a priority? Why or why not?

Reflect on Psalm 48 in light of this passage. What stands out about this Psalm?

In the sermon, the contrast between happiness and joy was discussed. Happiness was seen as more fragile and unable to tolerate sadness, whereas joy is actually bigger than sadness and not dependent on circumstances. Can you think of an example when you experienced sadness and joy at the same time?

Read Habakkuk 3:17-18. Is there any circumstance or hardship right now that is making it difficult for you to choose to rejoice?

The people's joyfulness was exuberant enough to be heard far away. Have you ever thought of your joy as a testimony to God's goodness? Ask him for opportunities to "be loud."