**Selfishness** - (Nehemiah Chapter 5)

A GREAT CRY (5:1-5)

A GREAT ASSEMBLY (5:6-13)

A GREAT EXAMPLE (5:14-19)

1. We are stewards of all that , not just of what , and He will hold us for our stewardship.

2. If we truly fear the Lord, then we will to honor Him before those

who .

3. To fear the Lord means to seek to glorify God in we do.

4. Nehemiah 5:19 indicates perhaps the greatest thing about Nehemiah's service: He did what he did to please the .

5. Three important lessons for everyone:

1. Expect , to arise among your people of influence.

2. the problems courageously.

3. Be sure that your own is intact.

6. See in every problem an for the to work.

**STUDY QUESTIONS**

1. What are some examples of selfishness you've observed this past week?

2. What were the people's complaints that reflected selfish interests? What did the people want done differently?

3. Who were the opportunists in this situation? How do you know?

4. How did Nehemiah react when he heard these complaints? What do his reactions tell you about him?

5. What difficulties did Nehemiah face in confronting his own people?

6. How did he protect himself so he couldn't be accused of being selfish or unfair?

7. In Nehemiah's day, the people with money had the power to take advantage of others, and the poor people were devalued. What parallels to this situation are there in our society today? In our church?

8. Who are the people you are tempted to treat as less valuable than yourself?

9. What can you do to keep from taking advantage of others or devaluing them?

10. How can you emulate Nehemiah's response?