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**Date:** Mar. 7, 2021    **Message Title:** The Key to Spiritual Renewal  
**Scripture:** Nehemiah 8:1-12    **Series:** Let's Build It Again

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*"True spiritual renewal is always marked by the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ returning to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_."*

1. The people \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1)

2. The people \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 3)

3. The people \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 6)

4. The people \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12)

### Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Nehemiah 8:1-12

1. What do you normally do when you find yourself running out of steam spiritually and in need of spiritual renewal?
2. How would you rate or assess your current level of hunger and thirst for God's Word? What, if anything, typically keeps you from being more responsive to God's Word?
3. Why is it so important to have a heart that is prepared to receive from God's Word? What practical preparations could you make that would assist in preparing your heart to hear and to respond to God's Word?
4. Why do you think it was important for Nehemiah and Ezra to read God's Word to the people after the completion of the walls?
5. What specific indications do you see in today's text that demonstrate the impact that the reading of God's Word had on the people?
6. What do you think it means that "the joy of the Lord is your strength" (v. 10)?
7. What evidence do you see that God feels joy for and delights in you? Is the joy of the Lord a source of strength for you? Why or why not?
8. What would change if you became convinced of the Lord's joy in you—if the joy of the Lord became your primary source of strength? What can you do to increase your experience or appreciation of God's joy for you?