

CELEBRATING THE SMALL STEPS

NEHEMIAH 12 • CHURCH BIBLE PAGE #563



"And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites out of all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem, to keep the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings, and with singing, with cymbals, psalteries, and with harps." **Nehemiah 12:27**

I see 2 things in this passage: sacrifice and

_____.

"And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: and Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground." **Nehemiah 8:5-6**

It's good to pause, reflect, and recognize what _____ has done in your life.

- We all have a **past** — a past which we sure are glad that we aren't there any more. We all have a **present** — if you are a believer, you have a place *in Christ*, where your sins have been forgiven and you are right with God. And we all have a blessed **future**.

Celebrate the _____ victories in your life.

- It will create a pattern of thankfulness, joy, and praise unto God in your lives.
- Take steps that will help to build YOU up... not build a wall up, not a building... but build YOU!

Don't focus on where you were, but focus on the _____ you have made.

- Yes, the mission is not accomplished, but small steps are being taken in the right direction!
- **Looking back** and seeing how far God has brought you should encourage you in the present to continue pressing forward to get where you want to be spiritually.

Take the blessings you have received of the Lord and _____ them with others.

- The devil will try to discourage you from taking and then celebrating the small steps in your life. The devil will try to discourage you from encouraging others.
- God has not failed you yet, and He will not start now! So don't give up!

Taking those small steps of growth in your life is not about forcing yourself to complete a set of rules or tasks or a to-do list. It's about you relying on Someone to propel forward — relying on _____!