### MESSAGE GOAL

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

# MAIN IDEA

Refuse to let our broken hearts keep us from being what God wants us to be, and invite God to shape us through our wounds into the people He created us to be.

#### HEAD CHANGE

I will care about the things God cares about.

# HEART CHANGE

I will focus my energies more on God than my grief.

#### LIFE CHANGE

I will use my life to address things that God cares about.

# **OPEN QUESTIONS**

Where have you gone on vacation? Was there anything on your vacation that touched your heart or disturbed you?

This past Sunday, we discovered that Nehemiah journeyed to Jerusalem on a trip and what he discovered broke his heart. During times when we are brokenhearted it is critical that we gain a right perspective on the situation by looking to God and others for perspective. Today, we will discover that being brokenhearted is God's way of propelling us forward to address an area that concerns His heart too.

# Read

Nehemiah 1:1-6

# HOW GOD HELPS US HEAL A BROKEN HEART

#### <u>Discuss</u>

### What did the Lord reveal to you through this

**message?** (Did you gain a specific insight into YOUR life? What challenged you? Did the Holy Spirit convict you in any area?)

Nehemiah was brokenhearted about the needs of God's people. What triggered Nehemiah's concern and how did he deal with his broken heart? (note verse 4)

Is there something that is breaking your heart today? Do you think it is also breaking the heart of God? What do you think God wants you to do about it?

Pastor Vince talked about the importance of making sure we focus more energy on God than on our grief. Talk about a time in your life where you were stuck in your grief. How did God help you through it?

What can we learn about God from Nehemiah 1:5-6?

Often God uses others to help us in our grief. Who has God used to support you?

What steps will you take this week to, by faith, address the area that is breaking your heart (and breaking the heart of God)?