

Nehemiah 10

A Generous Heart

Their Commitment

PERSONAL

- They saw their personal culpability
- Commitment to holy living in their personal lives

PUBLIC

- It was not individualistic- was made in community
- Affirmed and recorded in the presence of many witnesses

PRACTICAL

- Committed their relationships, their time, and their possessions
- Not just generalized statements: specific actions

Practical Commitment

RELATIONSHIPS

“We promise not to give our daughters in marriage to the peoples around us or take their daughters for our sons.” (v. 30)

TIME

A weekly Sabbath was given to them as a gift—so that they might honor God, enjoy rest, help others, and declare the truth of God.

POSSESSIONS

- The seventh year
- Firsts- “firstfruits, first born, first of grain offerings
- Tithing

Rule of Life

- A rule of life is a way of being intentional about the personal rhythms and guidelines that shape our days.
- A rule of life is how we present our bodies as a spiritual act of worship.
- Each rule is a way we partner with God for the transformation that only He can bring.
- “The great, buried gift in a Rule of Life is its goal of regulating our entire lives in such a way that we truly prefer the love of Christ above all things.” (Emotionally Healthy Spirituality)
- Questions to Ponder:
 - When and where do you feel closest to God?
 - How do you become most aware of his love for you?
 - Are there particular practices that open you to God? (Ex. Sabbath, prayer, devotions, journaling...)
 - What are your biggest priorities?
 - Where do you want to change?