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When It Is Time To Break Up  
Nehemiah 10:1-30

God has shaken up the complacency of the post-exile Israelites to confess their sins and further, be moved to true repentance in their lives. These children of God did three things in their move from disobedience to obedience to God:

- They made their repentant declaration public, Nehemiah 9:38-10:27
- They made an oath committing to a new way of acting, Nehemiah 10:28-29
- They made their actions specific, Nehemiah 10:30

Thousands of years later, there are reasons we, as the church and as individuals, should do as they have done:

- Victory in our personal lives and as a church requires repentance and the application of the three activities listed above.
- Our relationship with the world is easily messed up: we can be totally separated; totally integrated; trying to dominate the world; or engaged in the world but not engaged to the world. We must find our boundaries. Boundaries create a “comfort zone” that honors God and protects us.

Discussion Questions:

1. What did God bring home to your heart out of the weekend message?
2. Share with us a time when God got your attention?
3. How have you struggled with worldly issues and freedom in Christ? Where have you landed for your own boundaries?
4. How were you impacted by the “Covenant of Repentance” statement?

### **Covenant of Repentance:**

In view of all this, we are making a binding agreement, putting it in writing; Holding ourselves to an oath to be faithful to You, our King, and to one another...

- To be conformed not to this world, but to be transformed by Your Son
- To be a unique people, set apart and holy
- To be engaged *in* the world – but not engaged *to* the world
- To give ourselves to relationships that draw us to Your heart – and not away from it.

We make this covenant, by Your grace and in Your strength, that we might experience Your favor and accept that if we refuse to walk in Your ways, we sacrifice our identity as the community of God, and forfeit the blessings that come by being in fellowship with You.

To You be the glory forever! Amen.