

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: COrd3x2016

Text: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

1 all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel.² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, **both men and women and all who could hear with understanding**. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and **the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law**. ⁴ The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiyah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. ⁵ And **Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people**, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and **all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground**. ⁷ Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. ⁸ **So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.**

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, **eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared**, for this day is holy to our LORD; and **do not be grieved**, for **the joy of the LORD is your strength**."

| Smarts | Images in the text | Illustrations | SFX |
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| Word - Verbal/Linguistic | <p>both men and women and all who could hear with understanding</p> <p>They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.</p> | | <p>Have a contest to see who can read all the names in vss. 4 and 7 correctly the fastest! LOL.</p> <p>But seriously, folks... Try integrating this reading with the Gospel reading of Jesus reading scripture in the synagogue. Have two readers, one for each passage, going back and forth between the two similar scenes. See the example in show notes.</p> |

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| <p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> | <p>Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people</p> | | <p>Open the Bible in an expansive way before reading from it. Perhaps have it brought in procession from the back.</p> |
| <p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p> | | | |
| <p>Body - Kinesthetic</p> | <p>all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.</p> <p>eat the fat and drink sweet wine</p> <p>the joy of the Lord is your strength</p> | | <p>When the lesson is read (or any of the lessons, or all of the lessons for the day) invite people to stand, to lift their hands and say "Amen" at the end, then to bow and praise the Lord.</p> |
| <p>Musical</p> | | | |
| <p>Natural</p> | | | |
| <p>People - Interpersonal</p> | <p>send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared</p> | | <p>Make plans, either in preparation for the service or in response to the service, for people to visit homebound members of the congregation with a meal and to read some scripture. Add challenge by making arrangements to visit people who are not members but are neighbors of the church or in nursing homes or hospitals or prisons. Of course, ask if it is okay to share some scripture with them, and do so if they agree. Choose passages of hope, promise, or blessing, to encourage them, not to convert them. Let the Holy Spirit worry about whether they get converted or not.</p> |

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| Self - Intrapersonal | do not be grieved | Invite people to ponder, when they encounter the Word of God, do they tend to be grieved or to rejoice? Perhaps it is some of each, but what is their first reaction or their expected reaction? How do they react to the idea of the other response? Or are they moved in some other way, or not at all? If not, why not? | |
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