

# Study Guide for the Week of November 13, 2005

## *Finding Your Holy Discontent*

### Monday

This week we'll spend some time reading about people in the Bible who experienced a "holy discontent" that propelled them into action in their lives. As you read continually ask God to guide you so that you can follow in their footsteps in big and small ways. Today we will read about the situation for the Jews as Moses was born.

**Read Exodus 1:8-22.** What must life have been like for the Jews at that time? What were the fears of the Egyptians? What injustices were occurring?

### Tuesday

Today we will see Moses exposed to the cruelty of his people and his response.

**Read Exodus 2:1-15** in the Old Testament. While Moses was raised by an Egyptian princess, he always knew that he was a Jew. What was life like for Moses before the incident with the Egyptian? What was it like after? What was his "holy discontent"?

### Wednesday

Today we will read about the boy David who would later become the king of Israel.

**Read 1 Samuel 17:1-50** in the Old Testament. How would you describe David's holy discontent? Why was he brave in the face of a giant? This is a good example of the heart of a human being and the heart of God being wrecked over the same thing. It's also an example of God helping a human being to do a mighty thing. In what ways have you seen people move into action because of an injustice? Is there an injustice you see that breaks your heart and calls you into action?

### Thursday

**Read Nehemiah chapter 1** in the Old Testament. This describes the prophet Nehemiah. He breaks down crying at one point. Why? **Read Nehemiah 2:17-18.** What does Nehemiah set out to do? Nehemiah's holy discontent was that the remnant of Jews left in Jerusalem were unprotected because the walls of the city had been destroyed. He was also disturbed because other nations were being critical of God. His love for God and concern for the people became his holy discontent that spurred him to lead the rebuilding project. You might spend time reading the rest of Nehemiah's account. It is an amazing story of one man's drive and the faithfulness of God.

### Friday

**Read Luke 14:16-21** in the New Testament. You might call this Jesus' statement of his holy discontent. He reads from the prophet Isaiah and then declares that this is what he came to do. What is that? How might Jesus' holy discontent be similar to or different from your own? **Read John 1:5** in the New Testament. This is John's account of Jesus as the light of the world. Just as Jesus himself came to push back the darkness, we are called to do the same. Exposing ourselves to the needs of our world and the social ills that exist will help us to know our holy discontent and begin to work with God to change the world. As Aaron said, "When you find your holy discontent, feed it." How are you looking for or feeding your holy discontent? If you've not found it yet, don't give up. Find ways to expose yourself to more and more human situations and pray for God to give you eyes to see and ears to hear.