

If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you have not done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby at the welcome desk following the service. Someone will greet you, answer any questions you may have, and give you a gift as a **THANK YOU** for worshipping with us today!

If you haven't heard, Family Church is going camping, and we'd love for you to join us! We've booked out the Chinook Campground in Grant, Michigan, from June 15 to June 22. This week is a fun opportunity to spend time with your family and connect with others from Family Church! Whether you want to glamp, camp, or tent, there is a space for you! Please find more details on our website or through our app! Sign up today!

#### **Outreach Ministry**

• We have an event for you if you like pancakes, classic cars, or both! Save the date for the first annual Pistons and Pancakes on Saturday, May 21, at Family Church Grace Campus! Join us for a car show, pancake breakfast, and other outdoor family fun. This is a free event, and we'd love for you to come! Invite another car enthusiast or anyone else who likes to eat breakfast to come along!

### **Teen Ministry**

• High schoolers, we hope you can join us for a summer mission trip to New Bern, North Carolina, from June 16 to June 23! New Bern is the home to a group of refugees from Burma who are a part of the Karen (cuh-RIN) Tribe. On this trip, we will meet up with the refugees from Burma and work side by side with ministries in the local area, bringing the light and joy of Jesus to everyone we meet. For more details or to sign up, please visit the events page on our website! You will not want to miss this life-changing trip!

## Women's Ministry

- Cathy Grill is leading a new study, "Discerning the Voice of God How to Recognize When God Speaks," by Priscilla Shirer. This study includes videos, a workbook, and a table discussion starting on Wednesday, April 13, from 9-10:30 am at the Grace Campus. Register by April 4 through our website, app, or visit the Information Table!
- Pam Haddix is leading a new study, "Worship and the Word," by Pam Haddix. This is an in-depth study on what the Bible teaches about worship that will challenge and encourage you as you explore God's call to be His worshiper. Please join us on Wednesday, April 13, from 9-10:30 am at the Grace Campus. Register by April 4 through our website, app, or visit the Information Table!
- Sisters of Faith will begin a new bi-weekly study, "Free of Me," starting on April 12 from 6:45-8:00 pm at both the Ebenezer and Grace Campus! All women are welcome to join. In this 5-week series, Sharon Hodde Miller invites us into a bigger, Jesus-centered vision—one that restores our freedom and inspires us to live for more. Free of Me unveils our deepest insecurities and equips us to focus on God instead of ourselves. Please register for this event at your desired campus at familychurch.app/events by March 27!

#### Family Church - Weekly Services

- Thursday at 6:30 pm Live Service and Kids Church at Ebenezer Campus
- Sunday at 9:00 am Live Service and Kids Church at Grace Campus
- Sunday at 9:30 am Live Service and Kids Church at Ebenezer Campus
- Sunday at 10:45 am Live Service and Kids Church at Grace Campus

www.familychurch.app



## March 2022

How Leaders Finish Strong

God incredibly changed world, his world, his in just 52 days.					
<b>Nehemiah 6:1</b> , When word came to Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and not a gap was left in it —though up to that time I had not set the doors in the gates—					
The closer you get to what God created you to in life, the your enemy will					
to stop you.					
Two main ways the enemy tries to stop God from working through us.					
1. The enemy will try toyou.					
<b>Nehemiah 6:2-4</b> , Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: "Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono." But they were scheming to harm me; 3 so I sent messengers to them with this reply: "I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?" 4 Four times they sent me the same message, and each time I gave them the same answer.					
Just because you do something does not mean you do something.					
Two main ways the enemy tries to stop God from working through us.					
2. Your enemy will try to you.					

Nehemiah 6:5-16, <sup>5</sup> Then, the fifth time, Sanballat sent his aide to me with the same message, and in his hand was an unsealed letter 6 in which was written: "It is reported among the nations—and Geshem says it is true—that you and the Jews are plotting to revolt, and therefore you are building the wall. Moreover, according to these reports you are about to become their king <sup>7</sup> and have even appointed prophets to make this proclamation about you in Jerusalem: 'There is a king in Judah!' Now this report will get back to the king; so come, let us meet together." 8 I sent him this reply: "Nothing like what you are saying is happening; you are just making it up out of your head." 9 They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, "Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed." But I prayed, "Now strengthen my hands." 10 He said, "Let us meet in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you—by night they are coming to kill you." 11 But I said, "Should a man like me run away? Or should someone like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go!" 12 I realized that God had not sent him, but that he had prophesied against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. 13 He had been hired to intimidate me so that I would commit a sin by doing this, and then they would give me a bad name to discredit me. 15 So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. 16 When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.

## **Life Application**

Look back over how you have responded to God this month. Do not give up! Boldly follow what God is calling you to do!



# March 27th 2022

How Leaders Finish Strong

- 1. Would you agree that we have clearly seen (through Nehemiah) that when we seek God and follow God He can do things that are impossible?
- 2. Why do you think we are hesitant to boldly follow what we believe God is asking of us?
- 3. Nehemiah could have easily given up or been discouraged, but he kept doing what God called him to do, why do you think he kept going in the face of opposition?

# **READ: Nehemiah 6:1**

- 4. He was almost finished the mission, but not quite. So, what happened next?
- 5. Often in life, we are finally on the right track and then BOOM! Something comes out of nowhere! You're almost there, and something happens. Has this ever happened to you? How did you handle it?

# KEY POINT: The closer you get to doing what God created you to do in life, the harder your enemy will fight to stop you.

6. Did you realize the enemy uses strategies to take you off the wall (task/mission) and stop you from doing what God wants you to do?

KEY: There are two main ways the enemy tries to stop God from working through us.

# 1. The enemy will try to distract you. READ: Nehemiah 6:2-4

- 7. What happened here that could cause Nehemiah to get distracted? What are some common distractions that cause us to lose our focus? Can it, at times, even be a good thing?
- 8. Have you thought of saying, "I'm doing a good work! I'm not coming down!" I am here to do a GREAT project and I am getting it done?

# KEY POINT: We must have the courage to say no to distractions, even if they're good!

9. Even at church we often hear about all the things we Should BE Doing... But almost 100% of the time those with the idea never want to start it or lead it. The pastors

already have full plates. So, what does that teach us?

KEY PRINCIPLE: Just because you can do something does not mean you should do something.

READ: Nehemiah 6:5-7

10. What do they try next?

11. Rumors and lies are still common. Why?

READ: Nehemiah 6:8-16

12. What are the next things they try?

13. How does Nehemiah respond?

14. How do his enemies respond?

KEY: There are two main ways the enemy tries to stop God from working through us.

2. Your enemy will try to discredit you.

KEY POINT: As you rise in effectiveness, your spiritual enemy will try to convince you that you are more than what you really are. Stay focused and humble. The mission is not about you.

3. "15 So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days." What is the message you take from this story for your own life?

KEY POINT: God is not calling you to take up space and make a name for yourself, He is calling you to change the world.

4. What is your next step?

# **Life Application**

Look back over how you have responded to God this month. Do not give up! Boldly follow what God is calling you to do!