

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

- Do you have an artificial Christmas tree, ornaments, lights, or other Christmas decorations you no longer need? Consider donating them to David's Sparks of Joy - a program formed by Rick and Sue Woodard to bless others in memory of their son David and his joy for helping people in need. Email ruafinn@chartermi.net to donate!

Teen Ministry

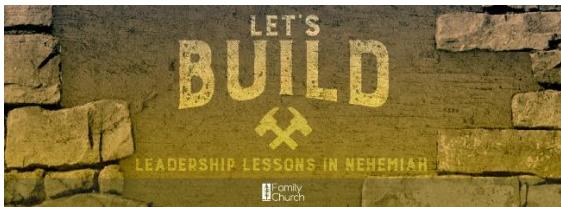
- High schoolers, we hope you can join us for a summer mission trip to New Bern, North Carolina, from June 16 to June 23! New Bern is the home to a group of refugees from Burma who are a part of the Karen (cuh-RIN) Tribe. On this trip, we will meet up with the refugees from Burma and work side by side 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



March 20th 2022

How Leaders Handle Discouragement

God incredibly changed _____ world, his _____ world, his _____ in just 52 days.
As I seek to _____ God, God's enemy will try _____ to _____ me.

Often, we face _____ because we're doing something _____, not because we're doing something _____.

Your enemy will try to _____ you from the _____.

Nehemiah 4:1-3, When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews,² and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, "What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?"³ Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, "What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!"

Two main ways the enemy tries to demoralize us.

1. Placing _____ in our path.
2. _____.

Nehemiah 4:4-5,⁴ Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity.⁵ Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.

Two key tactics leaders use when the enemy tries to demoralize us.

1. _____ it to _____.

Nehemiah 4:6,⁶ So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.

Two key tactics leaders use when the enemy tries to demoralize us.

2. Stay focused on the _____ they are called to _____.

Your enemy will try to _____ you from the _____.

Nehemiah 4:7-14,⁷ But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry.⁸ They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.⁹ But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.¹⁰ Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall."¹⁴ After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes." Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."

Life Application

Write down what is keeping you from doing what God is calling you to do. Pray to God and give him those fears, worries, and doubts. Then step out in faith and fight for what God is calling you to do!



March 20th 2022

How Leaders Handle Discouragement

1. We will go through hard times. We all have people challenge us. What is the best way to get through those times?
2. How do Godly men/women thrive during times of opposition? Who do you know that has done this?
3. When we step into any leadership role, we seem to face attacks. Why is this true?
4. We do have an enemy and his goal is to get you to take one small step away from God's plan for you followed by another and another until one day you are no longer living for God. Do you agree with this?
Have you seen this happen?

KEY POINT: As I seek to follow God, God's enemy will try ANYTHING to stop me.

5. How do you feel about this point? What can you do about it?

KEY FOLLOW-UP POINT: Often, we face opposition because we're doing something right, not because we're doing something wrong.

6. Our pastoral staff has been under attack, what can we do about that?

KEY METHODS THE ENEMY USES: Your enemy will try to demoralize you from the outside.

7. Think about the word demoralize. Look it up what all does it entail?

READ: Nehemiah 4:1-6

8. What is the first thing we see happening to Nehemiah? Has this ever happened to you?

KEY METHODS THE ENEMY USES: Places obstacles in our path.

9. Do obstacles cause you to stop the course you are on, or do you persevere?
Sometimes it is one step forward and two steps back. How would you help someone stay the course when this is happening?

KEY METHODS THE ENEMY USES:

Criticism.

10. How did Nehemiah handle criticism? How do you handle it?

KEY POINT: Enduring criticism is a part of leadership.

11. How do you handle criticism? Do you

listen, do you bristle, do you retreat?

Two key tactics leaders use when the enemy tries to demoralize us.

1. Give it to God.
2. Stay focused on the work you are called to do.

READ: Nehemiah 4:7-14

12. What do you see happening in this part of the story? Often if one thing doesn't work the enemy tries something more personal.
How did Nehemiah combat this attack?

KEY POINT: Your enemy will try to demoralize you from the inside.

13. Strangely enough attacks can at times come from those you love (family or good friends). Sometimes, the enemy will pull out all the stops to attack, criticize, and sideline you. Other times the enemy may attempt to sideline or criticize others using you.
Consider this carefully, do you allow the enemy to use you, either way?

14. Are the things you say helpful or harmful?
Do you stay far away from the gossip of negative or jealous people, like we just read about?

KEY QUESTION: How do you defeat discouragement?

1. Do Not fear
2. Remember the Lord your God.
3. Remember who you are working for and who you serve!
4. Stand up and FIGHT through prayer and God honoring actions!

Life Application

Write down what is keeping you from doing what God is calling you to do. Pray to God and give him those fears, worries, and doubts. Then step out in faith and fight for what God is calling you to do!