



NEXT

Come Together

#npnext

Week 2

2 of 2

April 14, 2019

Bottom Line: There is no substitute in a young person's life for a consistent leader who loves Jesus.

Icebreaker: You have to wear a T-shirt for one year with one word on it. What is the word and why? Or, you have to build a wall. What three people do you ask first to be on your team and why?

Key Verse: *Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. 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."*

Nehemiah 4:13-14

God's reputation with an entire generation was on the line. They had a huge task to accomplish. They didn't pray about whether or not they should do it; they prayed *while* they did it. They didn't wait till they learned how to do it; they learned how to do it while they were doing it. People were in danger. There was too much at stake. It wasn't going to be easy, and it would be a change. The needed people were already there, but it hadn't occurred to them that they were a vital part of the solution. The enemy was right outside the gates intimidating them. Nehemiah made a genius move. He rallied the parents and the families as he made the vision personal to everyone. He made it clear that this was about their families, and it was a game-changer. The parents became the champions of the story as they stood in the gap for their children!

Nehemiah was fighting for a generation that was at risk of not knowing who God really was. Everyone began to realize it was "our" problem, and the parents became heroes in the hearts of their kids. As they worked together, they rebuilt the walls and gates of the city in 52 days. The skeptics were astonished, the leaders and families were amazed, and the kids and teenagers saw a bigger God! This is what we want for NewPointe! We want to work together to do what seems to be impossible so that a generation can see God in a new way. Each of us has the opportunity to change a child's understanding of God by becoming a consistent leader in their life. We want to reimagine the world we are designing for the next generation. We can leverage what we have to do it!

THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from the message?

"We make a greater impact on a generation when we work together to confront what needs to be rebuilt." How have you experienced or seen this?

"Sometimes you just have to do something you don't know how to do." Has this ever been true for you? What happened?

"Everybody that Nehemiah needed to rebuild the town was already in the town." How does that encourage you for NewPointe?

Have you stopped dreaming or influencing? If so, why?

When the parents stood in the gap, the enemy decided not to attack. How does that make you feel? What thoughts come to mind?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

What do you think it would take for the average Christian parent to become a hero to his/her children?

How do you think the young people you know view the church/God's people? What would you like to see change?

What do you think is at risk with the young people who are dear to you?

Do you believe the condition of the community, the condition of the young people, is a reflection of the condition of our faith? Why or why not?

"Kids will ultimately decide what they think about our church based on how we treat them and their families." Reflect and discuss. How do you think we are doing?

NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Identify the problems in your community.
- 2) Check out how you can become a leader in the life of a child or teenager.
- 3) Take the next step.

EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: There is no substitute in a young person's life for a consistent leader who loves Jesus.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Monday: Matthew 18:2-7

Tuesday: Deuteronomy 11:18-21

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 4:9

Thursday: Nehemiah 4:13-14

Friday: Nehemiah 8:3, 8:17

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.

(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)