

FIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILY

Sunday Message Notes | Nehemiah 4: 13-14, 20

06.19.2022

As the basic unit of society, the family plays an important role. That is why the devil has made it a priority to target and divide the family. John 10:10 says, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.” When families are divided, the church becomes divided, and, by extension, the nation ends up divided. And so, we are tasked with protecting and fighting for our families. The devil will always hinder the work of God in our lives, and if the home is the number one priority of the enemy, then it should also be our number one priority as well.

The same way that the walls of Jerusalem in the Old Testament had broken down due to the Israelites’ idolatry and rebellion, we are all guilty of—at one point or another—neglecting our families. The good news is that we can always rebuild our crumbled walls, and we can do this by fighting for our families:

1. We need to stand firm and arm ourselves with our greatest weapon, the Word of God.
2. Fight with love.
3. Lift our children to the Lord.

Such a task can be daunting to anyone. Rebuilding the walls of our family will not come easily. Nehemiah 4:10, “Then Judah said, ‘The strength of the laborers is failing, and there is so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall.’” Just like how the Israelites experienced opposition and ridicule for their plan of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, we must prepare to also face resistance from both inside and outside the home.

Examples of this are stubbornness from family members who are opposed to change and the distractions of our day-to-day commitments that can take our time away from what should be our priority.

However, we are reminded in Nehemiah 4:14 and 20, “...Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses... Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us.” In times of fear, Nehemiah reminds us that we do not face our battles alone. When we fight for our family, it is actually God who is fighting for them; we are merely His instruments and we must remember our roles as such. After all, we cannot expect God to fight for our families if we ourselves aren’t either. The task of fighting for the family isn’t just for the fathers; we each have our respective roles, and we must fulfill them accordingly.

Discussion Questions:

1. The enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy. Are there areas in your family structure that are struggles that seem too overwhelming to conquer on your own?
2. Everyone is busy with daily commitments. Where do you see your priorities today? Do they need to change? Do they put God and family first?
3. What habits do you want to commit to instill into your family home to foster God’s guidance and leading of a spiritual home and lifestyle?