

DATE: July 21, 2024

TITLE: Standing Up to a Bully

SCRIPTURE: Nehemiah 6:1-14

SPEAKER: Dave Mobley

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

OPENING PRAYER

ICE BREAKER: Can you think of a time you might have felt bullied? How did you react?

THINK BACK: Referring back to this week's sermon... What is the BIG IDEA of the Scripture AS IT WAS TAUGHT THIS WEEK? Was there anything that left you with questions?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Nehemiah 6:1-14

1. Were you surprised when you experienced opposition to your being a follower of Christ?
2. Why would the world be such haters of us?
3. What strategies do the bullies of Nehemiah employ? Do you see these used today?
4. What does it feel like to be threatened? Is it always a direct threat or often an indirect threat?
5. How does fear serve us well?
6. How did Nehemiah stand up to bullies, threats and hate?
7. OT prophecy refers to God giving His words to speak to Israel and the nations. Prophecy is preaching to their sin and need. Prophecy is also promise of what God will do to bring His people back. Read Jeremiah 32:36-42.
8. In Matthew 10:28 Jesus tells His disciples to Fear God rather than what men can do to us. Does this make sense to you?
9. What are you most afraid of losing?
10. Romans 8:31-32 help us to see that what God gives is greater than what we have or may lose. Do you believe this?

APPLICATION

What is your nagging unanswered question? What did you want to hear that you didn't hear from the message? How can we get to know God as He is and not in the limited way we do now?

Think about what most caught your attention in the text or discussion. Why is God catching your attention with this at this point in your life? What does God want you to know or do? What's one thing from this text that you could say to an unbeliever about who God is?

PRAYER

Ask people for specific prayer requests. Pray for needs and for applications of the text. Ask for volunteers who would like to pray for those people and requests.

SHEPHERDING

Check the roster and see who is not there. Does the group know why someone is not there? Are there needs that can be met by the group? Specific prayer requests? Ask for someone to reach out and say, "We missed you."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE FOR JULY:

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. Romans 3:23-25

REMINDERS

Small Group Checklist

- Ask about ideas to serve in some way together. Serve 1x every six weeks or so.
- Encourage people to invite friends or neighbors to your group!! One way to reach 'out' together is to welcome people 'in.'
- Discuss childcare, if needed.
- Talk about any upcoming group meals or activities.

Check the bulletin, monthly newsletter and events page on the website for ways that you can get plugged in, as well as events here at FCC. Here are a couple of those things:

- Faith Rebuild registration is still OPEN and we are so excited to start the exciting process of helping Sonshine get settled into their beautiful new facility and start the process of transforming the "E-Wing" (Education Wing). Register you and your family online to join us for this kick-off weekend, or dates all through August!
- VBS Registration is also open! Go to the events tab of the website to register your kids, register to volunteer, or see how you can donate supplies to this great outreach event!