

5. What does faithfulness to God's call look like to you? Answer this in two ways. First, what is your understanding of faithfulness? Second, in light of this weekend's message, what does faithfulness look like in-action in your life?

6. What does this story teach us about how God uses and empowers his people to intervene and work on his behalf?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

Phase Series (Part 1)

"Standing In The Gap"

Nehemiah 4

3 Ways to Have Life-Changing Influence

1. _____ up
 - Your best chance to have influence in someone's life is to actually show up
 - Influence needs to be earned
 - Showing up earns you the right to be heard

2. _____ to God's Call
 - Time and Resources
 - A part of something bigger than ourselves
 - When the parents stood in the gaps, the enemy decided not to attack

Missional Application

God calls us to "stand in the gap" with and for people as an expression of his love for them. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit and Jesus is in us when we do this with our families, children, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and complete strangers.

3. Stand in the _____

- There is nothing more powerful than another adult standing in the gap with and for your family and your kid(s).

- We stand in the gap for one another, and with one another.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Read Nehemiah 4:7. Where do you see gaps in the "wall"? In other words where do you see kids, families, and people at-risk or in need of God's saving love?
3. Make a list of the people or families in your life? In what ways can you show up to earn the opportunity to have influence?
4. Continuing from Question 3; Spend some time reflecting on the friends, neighbors, co-workers, and fellow-parents in your life. Who does God bring to your mind and heart. Add them to your prayer list and pray for how God will use you to carry them to himself.

Family Discussion Questions

1. Read and discuss the Phase card for each child or student in your family.
2. Talk about someone in your life who has shown up for you? (parents share too)
3. What "gap" can we stand in to love and serve the people around us?