# **Vision - New Beginnings - Pt 17 Change Your World Pt 3 - Missional Families**

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New Beginnings / Leadership; Care; Listen; Hear; Prayer / Nehemiah; Nehemiah 3; Nehemiah 4; Nehemiah 6:15–7:73

 **You are called to change your world!**

[**Nehemiah 6:15**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne6.15) “15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days.”

[Acts 17:6](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ac17.6) “... “These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.”

**From** [**Nehemiah 3**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3) **and** [**Nehemiah 4**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne4) **we see two distinct callings to the family:**

1.  **Model your faith to your children by “Building” together that is - doing ministry together - being a missional family -** [**Nehemiah 3**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3) **lists out the families that built “Next to them” Involve your kids in the mission that models your faith.**

2.  **We have to FIGHT for our families -** [**Nehemiah 4:14**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne4.14) “... Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.””

Last week we talked about the fight - the need to fight for our families and a little bit of the how we fight - And we are going to look at that a little bit this morning as we see the relationship between these two points from [Nehemiah 3](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3) and 4, Building together and fighting for each other.

### How do we fight?

In a survey of the youth and young adults on WHY they stayed with their faith there were 3 overwhelming reasons:

1. They heard the Gospel (through Discipleship) and saw the Gospel being lived out in the **Home**

• [Deuteronomy 6:4-9](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Dt6.4-9) “4 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 **You shall teach them diligently to your children**, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

2. They felt they belonged and were a part of the church as a whole - not separated from it.

• **Mom and Dad - Have your children in a “Family Integrated Church” It Matters!**

• [**Deuteronomy 31:12-13**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Dt31.12-13) “12 **Gather the people together, men and women and little ones, and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the Lord your God and carefully observe all the words of this law, 13 and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God...”**

• [**Joel 2:16**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Joe2.16) “16 Gather the people, Sanctify the congregation, Assemble the elders, **Gather the children and nursing babes**;...”

3. They didn't just attend church or church functions - They were truly Born Again Disciples

• [John 3:3-5](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Jn3.3-5) “3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”

• [Romans 10:9-10](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ro10.9-10) “9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

• [Ezekiel 36:26-27](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Eze36.26-27) “26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.”

[Nehemiah 4:17-18](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne4.17-18) “17 Those who built on the wall, and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves so that with one hand they worked at construction, and with the other held a weapon. 18 Every one of the builders had his sword girded at his side as he built. And the one who sounded the trumpet was beside me.”

The is work and there is war, there is building and there is battle.

### Becoming Missional Families

**We are living smack dab in the middle of the mission field.**

• Barna research did a study in 2019 of what they consider top 100 “post christian cities in America”

**39 of the top 100 “Post Christian” cities are in the “Bible Belt”**

**3 of those 39 are right here in MO - #92 Kansas City - #80 Cape Girardeau - #62 St. Louis**

Three distinct themes in Ezra and Nehemiah::

1. Those themes are:

a. The rebuilding of the physical temple ([Ezra 1-6](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ezr1-6))

b. The rebuilding of the people ([Ezra 7-10](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ezr7-10); [Nehemiah 8](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne8))

c. The rebuilding of the wall (Community [Nehemiah 1-6](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne1-6))

World-changers must see their community in need of rebuilding, our community is a mission field!

**Families on Mission: Lets look at some examples from the Bible:**

• Noah and his family had a 100 year job God gave them, Noah, his wife and his three sons and their wives. whole family

• The Levites, whole family and all of their descendants. (Merriam, Moses and Aaron and all of their tribe) Wednesday evening we spoke about the Korahites as a family of Levites who led worship

• Abraham, Sarah and Lot - Issac and Jacob and their spouses. Joseph

**How about some new testament examples:**

• **Lets start with the obvious: Jesus**

• Mary (His mother) was with him in ministry

• Josephs Brother and sister in law Clopas and Mary

• Elizabeth and Zachariah, Mary’s Cousin

• John The Baptist - Jesus Cousin

• James - Jesus Brother (Who was an unbeliever until the resurrection) [1 Corinthians 15](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.1Co15)

• Jude - Jesus Brother

• Early church history records that both of Jesus sisters married leaders in the early church.

• **Timothy’s family:**

• Mother Eunice

• Grandmother Lois

• Brother Strataes

• Pastor of the church at Smyrna 35 miles away from Ephesus where Timothy Pastored

• **Barnabas**

• Nephew John Mark

• Mary, John Mark’s Mother

• According to scholars and early church history Mary the mother of John Mark owned the upper room where the 1st Lords Supper, where Pentecost happened and where the disciples joined in prayer while Peter was in Prison.

• **Luke and Titus were Brothers**

Part of the reason it is so easy to see families called of God in the early church is **because they heard, applied and lived these teachings of Christ:**

[Matthew 5:13-16](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt5.13-16): “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

[Mark 16:15](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mk16.15) “15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

[Matthew 28:19](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt28.19) “19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

[Acts 1:8](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ac1.8) “8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

The evidence of these verses in the life of the early church believers was seen as a sign of true Christianity. This was a testimony to the other believers and to the lost. How could you be a Christian and not be living on mission.

Being a missional family is EVERY family’s Calling!

**Nehemiah 4:17–18**

