

**Come Build With Me
Our City, Our Lifetime
06/22/24
Newport News**

Opening

-If you haven't had a chance to watch last week...

-next week is our 5th Saturday so join us online...Randall and Kelley Nichols

-(sweet tea slide)

-New series

- Broken up by some weeks we are out of town...
- Takes us through August...
- It's going to be lovingly challenging...

Introduction

-let's look at a **timeline** briefly...

1. Jeremiah 29:11 (around 597 BC when first exile)
2. first return 536...
3. second return 458...
4. Nehemiah 444...

-Nehemiah 1:1-4

- Nehemiah was born in Babylon...had never been to Jerusalem!

Nehemiah's passion was not rooted in nostalgia nor entitlement but rather from a holy sense of responsibility and contagious zeal for the promises of God to be made manifest!

(Jeremiah 29:11 was before he was born!)

-Jesus promises: (connect to how Nehemiah was inspired to start building!)

the Holy Spirit, healing, salvation, justice, purpose, reconciliation, wisdom, revelation, eternity...our city, our lifetime!

Fans

-Every church has fans...so did Jesus

-Matthew 5:1

- Take for example feeding of 5k (men alone, year 3 fan shift)
- Explain a Rabbi's "yoke"
- Not everyone was a "disciple"
- Not every crowd is a community

-City Life has fans...and there will always be fans...

- People online around the world logging in
- People connecting to the church through YT

-Our Fans - excited about what we are doing and maybe even benefitting from our ministry but not relationally connected here...

Friends

-Every church has friends...so did Jesus

-Luke 8:3 (talk about verse here)

-Just like in Jesus' day, City Life has "friends"

- Some measure of support
- May even be relationally connected here in some way
- This is true of churches and organizations, not just people

-And that friendship is reciprocated...our church is a friend to many other churches and ministries here in the 757 and beyond...

-Our Friends - are excited like fans but friends have more established connections here but they aren't people who call City Life their home church...

Family

-Every church has family...so did Jesus

-Matthew 12:46-50

-Jesus is using earthly family to describe spiritual family

1. Relational loyalty
2. Covenant responsibility (baby dedications express this)
3. Loving accountability

-Matthew 16:17-18 (petros vs petra)

-Exodus 20:25 (reference only, can't cut stones)

-Our Family – Excited like fans, supportive like friends but family are people who consider City Life Church to be their home church...we are one another's spiritual family.

-Statistics

- 230 kids and adults
- 300 to 350 people engaged by weekend services monthly
- Online – maybe add another 50...
- And that's not counting people who may watch on YT based on views...
- That fans, friends, and family!

-But this series is not going to be about fans, friends, or family...in this series, I want to talk to you about being a BUILDER...a Nehemiah kind of builder.

-Builders have a holy sense of responsibility, a contagious zeal for the promises of God to be made manifest in our city, our lifetime!

Band – Sermon Series Slide

-Builders Chip In

1. 30% of family never give
2. (reasons not to give...)
3. But if those aren't your reasons...will you come build with me?

-Builders Show Up

1. Post Covid the world has changed...

2. (reasons not to show up...)
3. But if those aren't your reasons...will you come build with me?

-Builders Help Out

1. (reasons not to help out)
2. How would you introduce me to someone?
3. But if those aren't your reasons...will you come build with me

Close

-(explain image of bridges...)