

Faithful Living for a Faith-Filled Legacy

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NEXT: From Northwest Houston to the World - NK | March 8, 2026 | Nehemiah 8:1-18; Nehemiah 9:1-38; Nehemiah 10:1-39

Prepared from the spoken message and lightly edited for readability. Scripture quotations and spoken phrasing are preserved as delivered.

So, a few weeks ago, my family went to the movies together, and we saw a movie about a goat playing basketball. Surprisingly, it was pretty good. I enjoyed the movie.

But what really caught my eye in the theater that day was a preview I saw for something that's coming out very soon. Did you know they're making a Toy Story 5? Five! They're making another one. It's a classic series, right? A lot of great movies and a lot of great characters.

Buzz Lightyear is one of my favorites. When you push the button on Buzz Lightyear, everybody knows what he says, right? Say it with me: "To infinity and beyond!"

You know it, right? It's clicked there. But have you thought about what he's saying? He's saying that he wants to go further than he can ever imagine, further than he can describe, further than he could ever understand. It's a very ambitious goal.

But when we think about that in relation to our faith, we should feel that exact same way. We should want our faith growing and growing so that it is going and going, right to infinity and beyond. We want our faith to make an impact further and wider than we could ever hope to understand. That means we want our faith to continue on after us in the generations that follow us. We're not just talking about personal faithfulness today. We're talking about generational faithfulness and those who come after us.

It's what we see in Nehemiah, starting right there in chapter 8, where your Bibles are open. Remember, the wall is done. It's finished, as we discussed last week. Nehemiah and the people of Israel are moving their focus from physical construction to spiritual formation. The wall is up. The city is safe. Temple worship can now resume with intentionality and regularity.

This group of people back in Israel has to make a decision: How are we going to live now? As the people gather together, they decide to walk faithfully with God for themselves and for the generations that are going to follow after them. Nehemiah wants to ensure that they leave a legacy of faith behind in the land again, and he knows that it starts with faithful living from every single one of them, right here and right now.

That's our title this morning, if you're taking notes: Faithful Living for a Faith-Filled Legacy.

Look with me at chapter 8, starting in verse 1:

All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel.

So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.

And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

— Nehemiah 8:1-3

If you're taking notes this morning, we're going to have four keys to faithful living and legacy.

Build Your Life on God's Word

The first key is right here: Build your life on God's Word. That's what's happening here. The wall is done. The people are assembled. Ezra steps up, and he begins to read Scripture.

If you look in verse 4, you see intentionality. You see a wooden platform that was built, and here's the phrase in the verse: "for this purpose." That means that while the wall was being finished, there were others finishing this platform so that Scripture could be proclaimed to and over the people.

Jim Hamilton, one of my professors in seminary, said it like this: "God's Word formed the world. God's Word formed Israel at Sinai. God's Word promised a new exodus and a return from exile. God's Word set the people free from Babylon. Once free, now returned to the land, walls rebuilt, the people turned to God's Word to form them anew."

So Ezra reads it, and the people are listening - men and women and all who could understand. That means their children were there hearing the Word of God. It's one of many pictures we have in the Bible of someone standing up and proclaiming the Word of God to the people of God.

Based on his example here in Scripture, I'm going to follow the pattern, so I might be a little longer today. He read from early in the morning until midday, so he had hours and hours. You guys just be comfortable.

Only one of you took me sort of seriously, right?

We see that the Levites are moving among the crowd. They don't just want the people to hear it; they want them to understand it. The Levites are there to answer questions, follow up, and make sure that people are getting it as they go. It's incredible. They're locked in. The sermon was longer than 30 minutes, and they're still locked in.

I want you to see what it says in verse 3. What does it say about the people? It says, "The people listened attentively."

Let me just ask you a question: When God's Word is opened, are you listening attentively?

I debated sharing this. It's one of my secrets. I'm going to share it anyway. I hope I don't regret it. The way the

lighting is in this room, I can see the facial expressions of the people on the first row and the last row. I can see every face in this room because of the way the lights are, and I love it.

I can see when people are nodding along, engaged, taking notes, and locked in to what we're talking about. I can see when people are playing on their phones. You think it is low enough on your knee, but it's not. I can see it from up here. I see you looking down. Every now and then, when someone falls asleep, I see that too. When you guys are looking at that countdown clock on the TVs on the back wall to see how much time I have left, I see that too. I can see every single thing that's happening in this room.

I just want to ask you: When the Word of God is opened, are you listening attentively?

Lock in. I want to encourage you, not just in here but in your life group. When God's Word is opened, lock in. Pay attention. Every day, when you're doing your Bible reading, put the phone away. Remove distractions and lock in to the Word of God. Attentively listen to what's being taught.

I know they do in the first service, because in the first service I mentioned Buzz Lightyear and said you had to pull a string on his back. That's not true. Apparently, you push a button on him. I have never had so many people complain after a sermon before, but it was encouraging. They were listening attentively. They were paying attention.

Listen attentively to the Word of God, not for my sake, but to honor the Lord and for the sake of your own heart and soul. As we encounter the truth of Scripture, we want it to mold us, shape us, and encourage us. We want the truth of the Word of God to reveal the love, character, and nature of God so that we can live lives that bring glory and honor to God each and every day.

Scripture is foundational. Lock into it. Ezra and Nehemiah knew they wanted the people of the Lord to be formed by the Word of God. They wanted to build this new life together in the city on the commands of the Word of God.

Jesus tells us the same thing. Remember what he says in Matthew chapter 7:

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

— Matthew 7:24

We build our lives on Jesus. We're building on a firm foundation in a very unstable world. Ensure that God's Word is foundational to your life, and I promise you, it will make a difference in who you are, how you act, how you feel, and how you think. I promise you, you will notice a tangible difference in your life.

The Center for Bible Engagement did a survey just a couple of years ago. It's very relevant. They surveyed 400,000 believers in North America. That is a massive sample size, and they are in our cultural context. They asked about their engagement with the Bible and how it impacted their lives.

The study said that those who engage the Word of God between one and three times per week - that could be time number one, a sermon on a Sunday morning; time number two, they read the Bible on Wednesday; and

time number three, somebody forwards them an email with Scripture in it on Thursday - are impacted about the same as people who engage the Bible zero times a week. Not very much.

However, people who engage the Bible four times a week or more, people who are consistent, people who are disciplined, people who want to ensure that they're building their lives on the truth of Scripture, experience radical changes in their day-to-day lives.

Look at some of them. Their personal evangelism increased 200%. That means their willingness to share the gospel with a lost world around them and introduce people to their Savior went up 200% as they engaged with and built their lives on Scripture.

Their intentional discipleship of other people went up 230%. Those first two show us that God's Word is flowing to them and then through them to others, either to introduce them to Christ or to teach them, like Jesus said in Matthew 28, all the things that he's commanded. We see the living out of Scripture as we engage with Scripture.

That's not all. There are so many other things there. Feelings of loneliness dropped 30%. Anger issues dropped 32%. Relationship bitterness dropped 40%.

Think about that. We're engaging the Word of God. We're seeing the nature and character of God. We're seeing the forgiveness, mercy, and faithfulness of God. So, in the bitterness in our relationships, we start to act like the Lord. We forgive. We seek peace.

Think about how that impacts a marriage. Think about how that impacts friendships. Think about how that impacts raising our kids and moms, dads, and their kids relating to one another. That's a big deal. We begin to live like our Savior.

Alcoholism dropped 57%. Feelings of spiritual stagnancy fell 60%. Those questions of, "God, where are you?" and those thoughts of, "Why can't I ever hear from the Lord?" begin to fall dramatically as we engage with the truth of Scripture.

I want you to understand this morning what Nehemiah and Ezra are doing with the Bible, with Scripture as the foundation. Everything in our lives really does change. We begin to live in the way that we're called to live.

That's why, when the wall is done, the first thing they do is gather as one. It says in chapter 8, verse 1, that they "gathered as one man." There's a sense of unity around the Word of God. We need to be in that same place.

The next three keys we're going to see this morning all flow right here from Scripture. The Word is being read, the people are gathered together, and throughout chapters 8, 9, and 10, you see them responding to the Word. You see joy. You see obedience. They begin to live it out and observe a festival they're reading about in the Word. They see what month it is, see what they're reading, and say, "Oh, well, we have to do this right now. That's what God's called us to do."

We see joy. We see obedience. We see them learning. Then we see sorrow. We see sorrow over their sin that

leads them to a time of confession.

Deal With Sin

That's key number two this morning for faithful living and legacy: Deal with sin.

Chapter 8, verse 9:

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law.

— Nehemiah 8:9

This isn't weeping because they were caught doing something wrong. This is the weeping of godly sorrow. They were convicted over their sin. They knew that their sin had interrupted their intimacy with God.

Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites told the people, "Don't weep today." That doesn't mean, "Don't weep ever." They were about to celebrate a feast they had just read about in Scripture. They wanted to be obedient. It was a feast of joy, and they were going to deal with that sin as soon as the feast was over.

We see it in chapter 9, verse 1:

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads.

And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.

And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the LORD their God for a quarter of the day; for another quarter of it they made confession and worshiped the LORD their God.

— Nehemiah 9:1-3

Remember the context. Remember why they were exiled out of the land and into Babylon in the first place. Remember why the walls were in ruins. Remember why temple worship stopped. It was all the consequence of their sin.

We don't have time to reteach it, but we've talked a few times in this Nehemiah series about how the people of God knew that God promised restoration, forgiveness, and a return to the land if they would confess and repent. That's what they're doing now.

Chapter 9 becomes this honest prayer before God in which they confess the times that they and their fathers had turned their hearts from the Lord. They knew their sin was a big deal. They knew sin interrupted intimacy with God, and they knew the consequences of sin were real.

As they began to live in Jerusalem once again, they were deciding how they were going to live. They wanted to live pure lives before the Lord, so they dealt with their sin.

In the same way, we need to deal with sin in our lives as well. Just like with them, sin interrupts the intimacy

we have with the Lord. Sin hardens our hearts and minds to the voice of God. And yes, just like with them, there are still real consequences to our sin.

Take a moment and follow their example here. Evaluate your heart and life. Ask God to reveal any sin that's in your life, and confess it before him now. Don't let sin linger. Don't nurse sin along. Don't look the other way. Don't think it's no big deal. Ask him, through his power, to help you turn from that sin and walk in obedience to him.

I heard a sermon this week about believers in today's world and their attitude toward sin. Listen to this. It's eye-opening. It's convicting. It should be a warning to all of us. One of the lines said, "Many believers today haven't thought about sin or been concerned about sin in their own lives in a long, long time."

The sermon talked about believers coasting. It talked about believers being indifferent about whether they lived a holy, set-apart life or a worldly life. That's not good. It's not what we were called to.

In Nehemiah's day, they realized that, and they dealt with their sin. I want to ask you this morning - this is between you and the Lord; nobody else can answer this for you - are you coasting? Do you look the other way toward sin in your own life? Are you indifferent toward sin in your own life?

I want to encourage you: Deal with sin. Do not let sin linger. Do not let sin fester. Do not let sin harden your heart.

My prayer is that the Holy Spirit would use these verses this morning in all of our hearts to wake us up to sin in our lives, that we would confess it, ask forgiveness, and move forward in the sweet relationship we have with God.

Remember How Good God Has Been to You

Our third key this morning for faithful living and a faithful legacy is gratitude: Remember how good God has been to you.

In Nehemiah chapter 9, verse 5, we've got this list of names, and it ends by saying:

Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

— Nehemiah 9:5

The rest of the chapter goes on to do just that. It recounts throughout their history, time and time again, how God had been good to them, even in the midst of their sin and unfaithfulness. God was good.

We read about him parting the sea and them walking through. We read about God guiding them through the wilderness with pillars of fire and cloud. We read about God meeting with them and his goodness in giving them the Ten Commandments and more at Mount Sinai. We read about the goodness of God when they're hungry and manna falls from heaven to feed them, and when they're thirsty, the rock is struck and they get water in the midst of the desert.

They refused to go into the Promised Land, but God stayed with them. They built the golden calf to worship it, but God forgave them and stayed with them. He was good to them.

They make a point in their prayer, over and over again, to recognize the goodness of God down to the little details of their lives. They didn't overlook the little things.

I love this. In chapter 9, we read about how they thanked God for their clothes and sandals in the desert. They stayed there for 40 years. For 40 years of walking through the heat, dryness, sand, and wind, their clothes and sandals never wore out. They recognized that. It's remarkable. It's a miracle. It's God's goodness to them.

I got into a car with one of my sons Thursday night after a track meet. He pulled his spikes off and showed them to me. He said, "Dad, look at these things." He's worn them about eight times on a rubber track, and half of the metal spikes are already worn down.

The people of God spent 40 years in the desert, and at the end of 40 years, their shoes held up. That's God's goodness in their lives. It's such a small thing, but they were paying attention to it. They recognized how God had been good to them. Compared to everything else in the chapter, that is such a small thing. It's just the tip of the iceberg, but they knew it.

Has God been good to you? He has been good to you.

Listen, in our culture, we've got this problem with gratitude. More often than not, people are entitled instead of grateful. It's not healthy. It's not a godly way to live. Fight that entitlement and lean into gratitude.

Slow down. Jot down some of the ways God has been good to you. If you're taking notes, write them on your paper. We see in chapter 9 a long list of the ways God had been good to his people. Write them down.

Write down when you got saved. I got saved at 13 years old. God was good to me in that moment. I thought about that moment over the course of the week. I prayed and thanked God for it. I remember the details of it, the people who were there, and everything that happened. God orchestrated that moment. He was good to me.

What about you? Where has God been good?

As you're jotting things down, you might not write that you got through the Red Sea because God parted it for you. But I'm telling you this: He's gotten you through something. He's gotten you through a trial. He's gotten you through a tough season. He's gotten you through confusion and fear. He's gotten you through an illness. He's gotten you through a rough patch in your family.

I'm telling you, God has been good to you. He's had mercy on you. He's forgiven you. He's been faithful to you. He has nurtured your soul through trying times. I'm telling you, God has been good.

Tell him. Tell him with an attitude of thanksgiving. Tell him with an attitude of gratitude. Focus on how good God has been and how he continues to be. It's important.

Here's what happens when we do that: It leads us to commit to walk with him once again.

Commit to Walk With God

That's our fourth key this morning for faithful living and a faithful legacy. There's a commitment involved to walk with him.

Look at the end of chapter 9, verse 38:

Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.

— Nehemiah 9:38

Because of what? Because of God's faithfulness. Because God had been good to them time and time again. It's a summation of chapter 9: "Because of God's goodness, his mercy, and his grace, and because of God's faithfulness in our lives even when we didn't deserve it - because, God, you are so good to us - we're making this firm covenant in writing."

Not only do they make a commitment, but they sign on to it together as a group. At the beginning of chapter 8, we saw that this is a unity thing. They're all in this together, committing to walk with him.

Then, in chapter 10, verses 1-27, we see all the names on it. You've got the names, families, and people who are signing on to this. It matches really closely with the census we saw a few chapters before in Nehemiah.

Look at how verse 28 continues:

The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all who have separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to the Law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all who have knowledge and understanding,

join with their brothers, their nobles, and enter into a curse and an oath to walk in God's Law that was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and his rules and his statutes.

— Nehemiah 10:28-29

All the non-Israelites were included in this commitment to walk faithfully with the Lord. They were separating themselves from the idol worshipers of the land. They were uniting with the people of God because they were turning to the law of God - them, their wives, their sons, their daughters, and all who had knowledge and understanding.

Again, remember the context. What is happening here? The people were exiled because of their sin. They knew that. They got back to the city. Miracles of God allowed them to get that wall done in just over 50 days. They were able to worship once again, and now they had to decide how they were going to live there.

God had built the walls. Now God was forming and building their hearts.

They knew their history. They knew they had a history of walking away from the Lord as a people. So they were committing, with accountability to one another, to live in a way that honored the Lord.

They got specific. That's what I want you to hear me say this morning: They got specific about it.

This commitment they all made together as a group wasn't an emotional moment that led to an abstract thought or promise of, "We're going to do better," or, "It's going to be different this time." That's not it.

They evaluated their own hearts and lives. They looked at their history and the history of their people. They looked at their context, the nations around them, and the temptations they were going to face on a daily basis. They looked at all of that and made specific commitments to the Lord about how they were going to live their lives in a way that honored him.

There are three of them. I don't have time to read the details of all three, but I do want to talk through the commitments they made because they're pretty applicable to us as well.

Honor God With Their Marriages

The first was this: They committed to honor God with their marriages.

They told the Lord in this commitment they wrote out for him that they were no longer going to intermarry with unbelievers in the land.

In Ezra chapters 7-10, we see a spiritual crisis among some of the first who returned from Babylon into the land. They began to intermarry with people who didn't follow the commands of the Lord and didn't worship the Lord. They intermarried with people who worshiped idols. Guess what? After a little bit of time, they began to worship idols as well. Many were pulled away from their faith.

As we look at intermarriage here in the Scriptures, I want you to hear me say this: This wasn't a racial problem. This was a holiness problem for them. For them to marry someone who refused to follow the commands of God was a big, big deal.

I want you to think about it. In Deuteronomy 6, what are we called to do? Love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, and strength, and then raise our children and build our households to follow the commands of God in that way.

If we know that, how could a marriage, a home, a family, and the raising of children be what God intends it to be if a husband and wife aren't united on the most basic, fundamental questions of faith? It just wouldn't work.

The people here committed to honor God with their marriages by marrying others who believed in him and his commands. They were ensuring that they would build their families on the commands of Scripture.

This holds true today as well. Ephesians 5 tells us that our marriages as Christians should be a picture to a watching world, pointing them to the love Jesus Christ has for his church.

If you're married, commit to living in a way that points people to Christ. If you're not married, I want to encourage you: Do not settle. Find someone who loves Jesus with their heart, soul, and strength and wants to live a faith-filled life that will leave a faithful legacy. Then honor God with your marriage.

Keep the Sabbath

The second commitment they wrote out and made before the Lord was that they were committed to keeping the Sabbath.

Doing so for them was a declaration of trust in God to provide. They were telling God, "God, we trust you. We're going to sit this day out. It's going to be focused on you, reverence, and holiness. We're trusting, God, that you will make up the difference."

It set them apart from other nations. It set them apart from other people. You read in chapter 10 that they weren't going to do business with people who came into the city. They were shutting it down on the Sabbath.

There are a lot of practical applications in the text as to how this was going to work, but the most important thing is to know that this is about trust - trusting in God to provide for their needs.

Many wonder how the Sabbath applies to us now. I'll just say this: There are a lot of places in the New Testament where we could read, "Set it aside and keep the Sabbath holy," but we don't see that.

In fact, in Romans 14, Paul essentially makes the matter of the Sabbath a matter of what we would call Christian conscience. He's writing to Jewish believers who have kept the Sabbath for generations, and he's writing to Gentile believers who are new to this whole thing. He's telling them, essentially, "Go where you feel the Lord calling you to go on this specific matter."

For you and me, that means this: If God is impressing upon your heart that you're to honor the Sabbath and keep it holy, obey him. God is calling you to that. He's putting that in your mind and heart. Walk it out like God is calling you to. But it's not a specific command for us today.

The point is this: Whether we set it aside or not, the call remains the same. We're trusting that God is God and that we are not. We're trusting God to provide for us in all things.

Support the Work of Ministry

Finally, they committed to support the ministry of the temple. You can look down toward the end of chapter 10 and see the details there. They committed to support the temple financially, and they committed to support it with their service.

It wasn't in a legalistic way by any means, but in a way where, together, they would be able to enjoy the goodness of God among them as a people. It's a beautiful picture of the people of God making a decision to enjoy God together in the faith.

For us, on this side of the life of Jesus as New Testament believers, what do we read about the temple today? We read that you and I are the temple. Believers are the temple, and the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

There's no temple in Jerusalem for you and me to support anymore. Instead, in the New Testament, we see how believers are called to support the ongoing work of ministry among them.

Let me pause here and say thank you. We've seen that in a major way these last several weeks as so many in our church have done just that.

Go back to last Sunday. In chapter 8, we read about the people coming together as one. That's what happened here last week. People came together as one to support this next chapter of ministry for our church.

I just want to say thank you for the way you responded to the Lord and came together to serve and advance the gospel - with finances, of course, but also with prayers and the ways you serve with your gifts and talents for the glory of God and the spiritual well-being of others.

The people in Nehemiah's day made a commitment to do that then, and we see so many today making that same commitment.

The wall was built, and the people were deciding how they were going to live. They committed to live in a way that honored the Lord. They moved forward together, knowing that commitment was going to lead to a faithful legacy.

It's how they lived. We can all think of people who have lived like that, people who have lived that life, and we've seen the generational implications of it.

I could brag on a lot of people in our church family. We're blessed with so many who continue to do that. God has been really, really good to our church, but I'll just mention one.

Her name is Nancy Labau. She's served in the student ministry at our Champions Campus for more than 40 years. Nancy and her husband, Jimmy, served together. Jimmy passed away about 15 years ago.

There's a moment at his funeral service I will never forget. It's an image I cannot get out of my head. On the wall at the back of the room, there was a slide displayed during his service. It was a list of more than 100 names. They were all former students who had gone on to be pastors, worship leaders, or missionaries somewhere in the world.

More than 100 of them in their 40 years of service, because they showed up every day, living faithfully in the little things. God built up in them this legacy that's going to far outlive both Jimmy and Nancy.

That's my prayer for all of us, for every single one of us. That's God's design - for the faith to be passed down from one generation to the next.

Let's live lives like that, lives that matter for eternity.

I want to encourage you, fresh and new. The people of God had to decide. They had to decide and commit: How were they going to live?

You and me, every single day, get to decide how we're going to live. I want to encourage you to lean into the four things we see here. Ensure that your life is built on the Word of God. Deal with sin. Do not let it fester. Live with gratitude. Then commit to living for him.

It's going to give you a faithful life. It's going to lead to a faithful legacy.

Would you pray with me this morning?

I just want to encourage you, with your head bowed, wherever the Lord is taking you in prayer right now, go with him. Every single one of us is in a different place in this room - a different place in our walk, a different place in our service, and a different place in our relationship with the Lord.

If God is impressing on your heart today a need for you to spend more time engaged with his Word, locked in and listening attentively, don't be vague with him. Be like Nehemiah and the people. Be specific: "Father, I haven't been in the Word. This is what I'm going to do to ensure that I am."

Maybe you're at a place in your life where you've been nursing a sin, looking the other way at a sin, rationalizing a sin, or justifying a sin. Whatever it is, deal with it. Deal with sin. Do not let it fester. Do not let it linger. Do not let the enemy have that foothold in your heart.

Ask forgiveness for that sin this morning. Ask God, through his strength and power, not your own, to help you turn from it and live in a way that honors him.

Maybe this morning you'd say that you lean more toward entitlement than gratitude. Maybe you'd say you've taken a lot of God's blessings and his goodness in your life for granted.

Flip the switch. Be grateful. Make a list. Jot it down. Go over it this week. Lead your family in that. Make it a family exercise. Talk about how good God has been. Point out the little things too, the sandals that didn't wear out in your life. That's God. Thank him for his goodness. Live with intentionality.

I'm going to pray in just a minute, and as I pray, we're going to have pastors and prayer partners down here at the front. If God is stirring your heart and you need to pray with someone this morning, we'd be honored to pray with you.

If you need to trust Christ as your Savior, we'd love to meet you here. If you know baptism is your next step, like the two men we saw earlier, we'd love to talk with you about that. If you're walking through a challenging season and you just need someone to pray over what's going on and what your next step is going to be, we'd be honored to pray with you.

When I pray and we stand to sing, that'll be your invitation to come forward and pray with one of us.

Jesus, we love you, trust you, and thank you for who you are and for all you've done. God, we want to live faithful lives in everything - the big things, but also the little things. God, every day, we want to live lives of faith before you so that our faith goes far beyond us into the generations that follow.

In your name we pray. Amen.

Stand with me now as we sing. Our prayer partners are here. We'd love to pray with you.