

Unpopular Opinion: Fight for Them

Big Idea: We need to fight for future generations

Text: [Nehemiah 4:14](#)

Dr. Greg began a new series this week on unpopular opinions in relationships with this week's focus on Generation Z. Nearly two-thirds of Gen Z have left the Church, and of those who remain only three percent read the Bible. Popular opinion tells us that this is a huge problem. We need to look at it as an opportunity. This generation is looking for people to fight for them as it says in the text from Nehemiah.

How we protect Gen Z is important to them. We need to remember the goal is not for us to suppress evil, but to elevate good. We can do this by **praying for the generation**, helping them to *love God, love the Church, and love their families*. If all we want is for them to be successful, we will end up with broken hearts.

We can further help Gen Z by **prioritizing church**. If you want to have a child grow up with a heart for God, teach them to prioritize church. If we demonstrate that sports, games, or leisure is more important than church, our children will make church even less of a priority. Church helps our children build a strong relationship with Christ through interactions with other people of faith and learning God's word.

Finally, we can help Gen Z by **developing the younger generation**. First, we need to be positive toward them, not seeing them as a problem to be solved, but as a group to be loved. In addition, we need to be available to them. This lets them know we care and want to see them grow. Furthermore, we can be positive toward them. Help them see that they are not what they have done, but they are better through Christ.

Community Group Questions:

1. Share with the group how this message impacted you. Do you feel challenged? Encouraged?
2. Why is it important for young people to attend church regularly? What adjustments do you need to make to your schedule **to** make church a priority?
3. What is the part you **must** play in fighting for the next generation? How will you participate in developing those who are younger than you?



REACHING PEOPLE WITH THE LIFE GIVING MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST

Prayer Focus:

Father, let the spirit of Nehemiah fall on us today. Help us see the opportunity we have before us to rebuild the next generation. Give us passion and ideas for how we can support and develop Generation Z. We ask You to bless every student and parent represented in our group. Give our young people a healthy fear and reverence for You, God. Surround them with Your divine favor. And bring Godly friends and influences into their lives. We believe You are going to do powerful things in the next generation. Show us how You want us to be a part. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Next Steps:

Encourage your group members to think about how they can be a part of helping develop the next generation here at Valley. Talk about the opportunities to lead Small Groups for students, to serve in Valley Kids, and to serve with the Valley Student Ministry. Challenge your group members to attend Growth Track next month and get involved!