



# PASTOR'S NOTES

## Transformed Living, Part Two

Nehemiah 9:32–10:39

### Recap

The people knew they had transgressed the covenant and that their hope could not be in themselves. Their only hope was a gracious God who would keep his promises and remember them in their affliction. This hopeful faith—*like faith always does*—moved them to action.

After their prayer which recounted God's covenant faithfulness despite their covenantal unfaithfulness and which asked the Lord to remember them in their trials, the people publicly made a firm, but provisional covenant with the Lord to live transformed in response to what the Spirit had done in their midst.

The Spirit's revival brings about renewal and a transformed way of living by captivating us with the beauty of Christ, reforming our beliefs, and strengthening our wills weakened by the flesh.

After entering into this covenant with the Lord, the first specific commitment made by the people had to do with protecting the sanctity of the household.

### **The Spirit works through godly households connected to the community of faith to build up the next generation.**

#### *To the unmarried in the room:*

- Singleness does not render you a second-class citizen in God's Kingdom. (cf. Matt 19:12)
- You do not need marriage to flourish in this life or ministry. (i.e. Jesus, Paul, Augustine, etc.)
- Regardless of what God has in store for your future, leverage your singleness for the glory of God (cf. 1 Cor 7:32–35)

The family is meant to reflect the Kingdom of God.

(cf. John 1:12–13, Eph 5:31–32, Matt 12:50, Col 1:15, Eph 6:1–3)

"The family will correspond to its design to the extent that it constitutes a Kingdom of God in miniature. For the Kingdom of God does not exist for the sake of the family, but, as is true of everything else, the family exists for the sake of the Kingdom of God. . . . The relationships of family life have their reflection and standard in that communal life of a much higher order, found in the Kingdom of God." — Herman Bavinck (AD 1854 – 1921)

Godly households that are connected to the broader community of faith—the local church—are one of the chief means through which the Spirit transmits the gospel from one generation to the next.

*We will not give our daughters to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for our sons.* (Nehemiah 10:30 ESV)

The charge not to intermarry with surrounding peoples had nothing to do with differences in the pigment of their skin. The concern was religious, not racial. The surrounding peoples worshiped idols, and to intermarry with them would compromise the faith environment of the home. (cf. 2 Cor 6:14)

#### *To the unmarried who desire to marry:*

- Pursue purity.
- Pursue contentment.
- Pursue someone who encourages you in the faith and brings you joy.

#### Cultivate a home environment that promotes true worship.

1. Parent with the end in mind. (cf. 2 Cor 3:18)
2. Shepherd the heart in love and patience. (cf. Jas 1:19–20; Col 3:21)
3. Keep the conversation open. Talk with your children about the Bible and answer their questions. (cf. Deut 6:4–7)
4. Pray for and with your children. (cf. 1 Chron 29:18–19)
5. Openly put the idols of your past away. (cf. Josh 24:14–15)
6. Make corporate worship a priority. (Neh 10:31)

The OT Sabbath applies a principle of creation, 6 days of work + 1 day of rest, in its unique covenantal context that is taken up and fulfilled in Christ, who is our perpetual Sabbath and who secured for us the eternal Sabbath rest. Nevertheless, we still submit to the same creational principle in a distinctly New Covenant context through our Lord's Day worship as we rest from our worldly concerns and celebrate what has been accomplished by Christ.

Keep in Mind: Our practices regarding corporate worship on the Lord's Day proclaim to our households the God or gods we worship.

7. Model a living faith and a cheerful generosity. (Neh 10:31–39)



# MeadowBrook CHURCH

Sunday, April 14, 2024 • Pastor Randy Gunter  
mbchurch.com

## Worship Night at MeadowBrook

Wednesday, April 17  
6:30 PM | Worship Center

**Come be a part of a multigenerational worship gathering as we focus our hearts and minds on the Living Savior. MeadowBrook's Kids' Choir, Band and Orchestra, Abundant Life Choir, Collective Worship Team, and the Sunday Worship Choir will be leading. Let's do what Psalm 150 says, "Let EVERYTHING that has breath, praise the Lord!"**





# CONNECT

people to Christ  
and His church

## COFFEE HOUR

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 • 10:30 AM • CAFE '59

If you are new to MeadowBrook, Pastor Randy and ministers would like to get to know you, share the mission of MeadowBrook, and answer any questions you may have.

Register at Guest Connections  
or [mbchurch.com/connections](http://mbchurch.com/connections)

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## Spring Gathering at The Well Pouring Truth into Others

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 • 11:45 AM • GYM

Cost of \$15 includes

boxed lunch, candle making and chocolate fountain

For ladies of ALL ages, sixth grade & up!

Register on the MB App or at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com)

## MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

APRIL 28 | 11:45 AM | CONFERENCE CENTER

Lunch for anyone considering membership. We'll walk through our doctrine, beliefs and answer any questions you may have. (Prerequisite for membership) Register at [mbchurch.com/connections](http://mbchurch.com/connections)




# GROW

them as disciples  
and equip them to

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

### TODAY

8:00-8:20 am - Sunday Morning Prayer Time - W105

9:00 am - Worship - Worship Center

9:00 am - Kids Worship Live - Kids' Theater

10:30 am - Life Group

3:00 pm - Women on Mission - Conference Center

4:00 pm - Kids' Choir Rehearsal - Worship Center

### TUESDAY, APRIL 16

9:30 am - Tuesday Bible Study - Dining Hall

10:00 am - GriefShare - Conference Center

10:45 am - Abundant Life Choir - Worship Center

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

5:00 pm - Fellowship Meal - Dining Hall

(Creamy Chicken, Rice, Broccoli Casserole, 7 Layer Salad, Rolls, Dessert; Kids: Hot Dog, Fries, Cookies)

6:30 pm - Worship Night at MeadowBrook -

Worship Center

### THURSDAY, APRIL 18

10 am - Threads of Love Knit & Crochet - Conference Center



## Tea Party For Moms & Daughters

SATURDAY, APRIL 27  
10AM in the Kids' Theater

for Girls K5 - 5th grade

Register on the MB App  
or [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com)




## life group

Life together for the  
Kingdom of God

SUNDAYS at 10:30 AM

For a listing of our classes,  
pick up a Life Group brochure  
at Guest Connections.

## 2024 BIBLE READING

April 14 - Exodus 16

April 15 - Exodus 17

April 16 - Exodus 18

April 17 - Exodus 19-20:21

April 18 - Exodus 20:22-21:36

April 19 - Exodus 22-23

April 20 - Exodus 24

Bible reading plans are available at Guest Connections & Ministry Central



# SERVE

through missions,  
ministry and worship

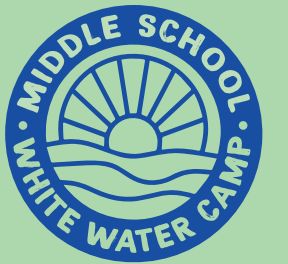
## GRADUATE Sunday MAY 19

ALL High School SENIORS, register for our Graduate Sunday online at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com). We will recognize our graduates during the 9AM Worship Service and have a special dinner that evening at 6:30 PM. For more info, email [matt@mbchurch.com](mailto:matt@mbchurch.com).

### JUNE 12-14 • CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE

This will be an exciting experience for any student finishing 6th-8th grade! Whitewater Rafting, Mountain Biking, High-Ropes, Horseback-Riding, Paintball, Campfires and Smores are a few of the things that we will get to enjoy! Of course, the vision for our camps is more than just experiencing a short trip for activities and fun. While we love having fun, what White Water Camp is most focused on is students being transformed forever by the truth of the Gospel!

Register online at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com) or on the MB App



### JULY 8-11 • TOWNSEND, TENNESSEE

This will be an unbelievable opportunity for students finishing 8th-12th grade! We will enjoy the awesome Smoky Mountain National Park as well as soaking up the Gatlinburg area. Of course, the vision for our camps is more than just experiencing a short trip for activities and fun. While we love having fun, what the Smoky Mountain Retreat is most focused on students' lives being transformed forever by the truth of the Gospel!

Register online at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com) or on the MB App

## Prayer Needs

Cancer/Treatments: Kathy Clayton, Larry Gillis, Rob Morris, Brett Yancey, Kyle Hughes, Tony Howell, Andrea Love, Tommy Thompson, Bob Cross, Bart Watts, Brinley Corbin, Margie Martin, Melissa Griffin, Martha Vaughn

Ongoing Needs: Bebe Pruett, Vernon Tull, Pam Findley, Lanette Albright, Chris Burnette, Lloyd Matthews, Landon Cunningham, Max & Denise Dover, Lola-Ruth Adams, Wes Burnett, Tom Simmons, Danny Maddox, Frank & Peggy Brizendine, Wayne Wood, Anna Moore, Tom Bentley, Mallory Dunn Bramlett, Kathy Thompson, Susan Mize, Aiden Beck, Derell Reaves, Tony Fleming, Bennett Tucker

- Kathryn Yancey & family in the loss of her father
- Tom Simmons - UAB
- Frank Duke - Riverview