

Group/Individual Study

Series: "Bless this Home" - Fight

Passages: Nehemiah 4:14, Matt. 21:12-13, Matt 5:38-40, Prov 4:23

REFLECT on the message heard Sunday, 6/18

1. Read Proverbs 4:23. Gary contended that the first battle every man must fight is the battle for a Christ-centered heart. Comment on this. Why does this battle matter so much? How does it influence everything else?
2. Read Nehemiah 4:14. In that day men were having to fight to protect their wives, kids, and homes from (literally) attacking armies. What does the battle look like today to fight to defend our wives, our children, and our homes? What do they need protecting from?
3. Read Matthew 21:12-13. What made Jesus turn over tables? What can it look like today for men to use their power to fight injustice and things that hurt the heart of God? Do you feel God nudging you to turn over tables anywhere?
4. Read Matthew 5:38-40. Other times, godly strength--instead of turning over tables--will lead us to turn the other cheek. Give some examples of when turning the other cheek is a sign of godly strength? Is it ever hard to know whether a situation calls for the strength that turns over tables or the strength that turns the other cheek? Which is easier for you?
5. Gary also made the point that if men don't use their power to fight for the things that matter to God, they will wind up fighting silly or sinful things. What are some of the ways men can misuse their power or invest it in unfruitful pursuits? If you are a guy, which of these do you struggle with?
6. How did Jesus model strength, courage, and fighting for the right things? What do you see in Him in this regard that you would most like to see more of in your own life? Pray for this.