



## “Leaving A Legacy” Week 7

**Big Idea:** Legacy isn't what you leave **to** people. Legacy is what you leave **in** people.

### **Main Scriptures**

**Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NLT)**

**Nehemiah 12:43.**

**Psalms 78:4 1**

**Thessalonians 5:16-18**

### **THE WALL WAS NEVER THE POINT**

**Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NLT)** "So the wall was completed on October 2—just fifty-two days after we had begun. When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God."

The wall was completed in **52** days.

But the greatest miracle wasn't the wall.

It was the **people**.

### **TELL THE NEXT GENERATION**

**Psalms 78:4 (NLT)** "We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about His power and His mighty wonders."

A faith worth following becomes a legacy worth **sharing**.

### **GENERATIONAL BLESSINGS**

Zach Gowen

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV).** "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

## **ZACH'S STORY**

Pain does not have to determine your **future**.

- Father's alcoholism
- Abandonment
- Cancer
- Leg amputation

## **THE EMPTY PURSUIT**

Getting everything you ever wanted still won't fill a **God-sized** hole.

Success without surrender still leaves you empty.

## **THE TURNING POINT**

"No human power could have relieved us of our alcoholism, but God could and would if He were sought."

The answer wasn't trying harder.

The answer was learning to **seek** God.

## **WILLINGNESS & OBEDIENCE**

"Jesus didn't need Peter's boat to preach; He needed his willingness and obedience."

God is not looking for perfection.

He's looking for **willingness**.

## **SEEKING GOD CHANGES EVERYTHING**

For more than 16 years, Zach has pursued God and watched Him rebuild what was broken.

- Recovery
- Purpose
- Family
- Faith
- Influence

## BREAKING THE CYCLE

Sometimes the greatest legacy isn't what you build.

Sometimes it's what you **break**.

- Breaking addiction
- Breaking anger
- Breaking absence
- Breaking hopelessness

## TURNING CURSES INTO BLESSINGS

- By seeking God and applying Biblical principles:
- His children have never seen their father drunk.
- His children have never seen their father violent.
- His children have never seen their father absent.

The cycle can be **broken**.

## FAMILIES CELEBRATE TOGETHER

**Nehemiah 12:43 (NLT)** "Many sacrifices were offered on that joyous day, for God had given the people cause for great joy. The women and children also participated in the celebration, and the joy of the people of Jerusalem could be heard far away."

Healthy families don't just endure together.

They **celebrate** together.

## BOTTOM LINE

We have the ability to draw a line in the **sand**.

Through Jesus, generational curses can become generational **blessings**.

## PERSONAL REFLECTION

- What stops with me?
- What blessing do I want future generations to experience because of my faithfulness?
- What area of my life is God asking me to fully surrender today?

## FAMILY CHALLENGE

This week, share one story of God's faithfulness with your family. Tell the next generation what God has done, and begin building a legacy that points people to Jesus.