**Abundant Life Church**

**Sunday, June 21st, 2020**

**Title: FIGHT!**

**Text:**

 When I saw *their fear,* I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people: "Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses."
**Nehemiah 4:14 (NASB)**

**Context of this passage:**

Nehemiah is leading the Jewish people in rebuilding the wall around the city of Jerusalem. As they were working they were facing many enemies.

***Prayer***

 When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.
**Nehemiah 1:4 (NASB)**

***Confession***

 Let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant which I am praying before You now, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Your servants, confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have sinned against You; I and my father's house have sinned.
**Nehemiah 1:6 (NASB)**

***Leadership***

Let us arise and build.

**Nehemiah 2:18 (NASB)**

**Wake Up**

You are in a battle. There is no time for pacificity.

In American culture truth has fallen and is dying across our culture.

Right now, the young in our church are being raised in a postmodern world

Postmodernism is the new norm.

* There is no right, no wrong just your truth and my truth.
* Gender is a societal construct divorced from biology. Therefore, the governor of our state can stand in the capital rotunda with men dressed in drag and everyone still thinks he is great.
* Being nice is more important than the actual truth
* There is no confession of sin because nothing is sinful in the postmodern mind.
* Women’s rights are equated with abortion
* Sleep with who you want, when you want
* **Worldwide, pornography is reported to rake in anywhere from fifty-seven billion to a hundred billion dollars annually. In the United States, it generates more revenue than CBS, NBC, and ABC combined and more than all professional football, baseball, and basketball franchises. – Business Insider, May 2012.**

But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. They said to you, "In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires." These are the men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.
**Jude 1:17-19 (NIV)**

How do you discern between godly and ungodly desire? The truth, God’s Word.

**Get the Truth In**

Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. **Romans 12:2 NLT**

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;
**2 Timothy 3:16 (NASB)**

 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.
**Psalm 119:105 (NASB)**

**Stand Firm on Principle- No Retreat**

* Bringing your kids to church is not raising them in the faith of the Lord Jesus Christ.
* 6 out of 10 kids raised in church abandon the faith after high school graduation.

 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.
**Jude 1:3 (NASB)**

So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter. **2 Thess. 2:15 (NIV)**

Go home, turn off the electronics, and start reading the Scriptures. You don’t need another sermon from me or any other preacher. How do you even know who is telling the truth if you aren’t becoming familiar with the Scripture?

Quit listening to all the noise and learn to quiet your inner man so you can think clearly.

When has anyone in your family seen you:

* Reading the Scriptures,
* Pray,
* Confess Sin,
* Weep over the state of the world?
* Make a principled decision about biblical truth.
* Have a conversation with your child/family that is engaging, but discusses biblical truth concerning a cultural issue?