

The  
People  
of  
God

in Mission  
in Community  
in Living the Dream

**Welcome to Fort Avenue.** We believe it's the relationships that guide people of all backgrounds into a personal relationship with **Jesus Christ.**

And **Jesus** came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

## The People of God: Mission

**Core Verse: Matthew 28:18-20** (in line with John 14:15 – if you love me you will keep my commandments)

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- **Explaining the Three Sermons leading into a evangelism class**
  - The People of God: in Mission
  - The People of God: in Community
  - The People of God: Living the Dream (How do we get there?)
- **My Background leading into becoming a disciple**
  - Born, always went to church
  - Family split when I was 9, raised myself for a few years
  - Grandmother took me in and raised me
  - Went back to church, helped start teen ministry
  - Church fell apart, left for upper Baltimore
  - Came back and prayed to God in the shower
  - Life change with new car, need a new job
  - Get an amazing out of the blue job offer
  - First night work with disciple who befriends me
  - Study the Bible, friend joins, fiancé joins
  - Baptized 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1996
  - Spend a lot of time fired up and studying the Bible with people
- **Prepping the Study Series: What is it?**
  - It's really 10 foundational studies that were traditionally done
  - We will cover 9 of the 10, but they will all be available
  - I will teach not only the studies, but other evangelistic opportunities, how to be “*fishers of men*”
  - A book will be required to be read during this series, “not a fan” by Kyle Idleman

## Point 1: The People of God always have a mission and purpose

Case Study 1: Numbers 13:31-14:35

### Historical backdrop leading up to Numbers 13 situation

- Adam & Eve and the Garden
- Noah and the Flood
- Abraham and Sarah: Gods chosen ones to create people for himself
- The People in Egypt, Moses is chosen to lead them
- They are led out of Egypt into the wilderness and to the promise land at Kadesh-Barnea

### Numbers 13:31-14:4

- A bad report is given
- The people are retreating from the mission

### Numbers 14:11-12

- The declares these people will perish
- Moses prays to God

### Numbers 14:20-23, 14:32-35

- The Lord responds to Moses and the people
- What can we learn from this?
  - The Lord expects us to be about the mission
- How do we become like them?
  - Do we give into fear and create excuses?
    - *"I'm not that type of person"*
    - *"I'm an introvert"*
    - *"God did not wire me this way"*

## **Point 2: What happens when the people of God are about the mission?**

Case Study 2: Nehemiah 4:1-20

Backstory leading up to Nehemiah chapter 4

### **Nehemiah 4:1-3**

- Opposition shows up, always
- Little guy speaks up looking tough next to the 3 big bully

### **Nehemiah 4:4-9**

- The people respond in prayer to God
- They keep working

Nehemiah 4:10-12

- Further opposition from surrounding families and discouraging rumors

### **Nehemiah 4:13-14**

- An inspiring message is delivered to rally the people
- Having the ability to not let discouragement settle in

### **Nehemiah 4:15-23**

- They were always ready to defend
- They would build and defend at the same time
- They never took off their armor or put down their weapons

The situation in Nehemiah was messy, tedious and painful at times yet they  
overcame

From the book "Radical" by David Platt Pages:

**93, 96, 103, 105 & 206**