



Don't Stop at the Gate

*"After the wall had been rebuilt and I had set the doors in place..."
Nehemiah 7:1*

Dear TC Family,

When Nehemiah finished the wall, it would have been easy to stop right there. The work was hard. The wall was up. The gates were hung. Surely that was enough.

But Nehemiah understood something the people needed to hear: the wall was never the finish line. It simply made the next work possible.

And here's what strikes me every time I read that story: the wall wasn't built by professionals. It was built by a community. Priests worked. Families worked. Merchants worked. Craftsmen worked. Each person took the section nearest their own home, and no one did the same job.

But everyone had something to bring.

That's Turlock Christian.

And we may never fully know the impact of what we bring. The student we encourage today may become the parent, teacher, pastor, business leader, coach, or community member who pours into another generation tomorrow. A seemingly small act of faithfulness becomes part of a story God continues writing long after we are gone.

I am living proof of that.

I'm a TC alum. People invested in me when I was a student - teachers who taught me to think and to believe, coaches who taught me discipline and how to lose with grace, administrators and leaders who led a school where I could ask hard questions safely, parents (mine and my friends') who volunteered and prayed and opened their homes,

classmates who challenged me and walked (and still walk) beside me. And decades later, I am still benefiting from, and building upon, what they faithfully gave.

That is why TC exists: to help students know Christ, pursue excellence, and impact the world for God's glory. And that is why I don't want any of us to simply stop at the gate.

Come in. Be part of this community. Find your place in the mission God has given us.

Ask yourself: What do I have that I can bring?

For some, it's teaching or leading. For others, it's coaching, volunteering in a classroom, or helping at an event. It might be encouraging a tired teacher, welcoming a new family so they don't feel like outsiders, giving financially so this school can keep doing what it does, praying faithfully over students and staff, sharing your expertise, or simply noticing something that needs to be done and stepping forward to do it.

Because when a community centered on Christ brings its gifts, prayers, resources, relationships, talents, and hearts together, we do far more than build a great school. We help build lives grounded in Christ, and that impact is eternal!

The wall is standing. The gates are open. Now let's build what belongs inside them... together.

In faith, belonging to our family, and building our children's future,

Johanna Fischer

Chairwoman

Turlock Christian School

