

Small Group/Sermon Notes for Vision: Reach Up Spring 2017

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **Vision 2: Rise Up**
 - I was raised to be getting better, whatever it was. To struggle and strive and never be satisfied. When taken too far there can be darkness there.
 - When I got saved Christians seemed complacent to me.
 - "There could never be a more beautiful you" kind of bothers me. ☺
 - There has to be a place where we are satisfied AND on a growth track.
 - I believe both **Luke 9:23** and **Matthew 11:30**.
 - These are both true because the pain of self-discipline is much less than the pain of regret.
- So, let's Rise Up!
 - Rise up out of the garbage holding you down.
 - Rise up into the abundant life God has called you to.
- **Luke 4:14-21**
 - These are the promises available to everyone on the planet!
 - Good news to the poor?
 - Our God is a provider and He teaches us how to keep from sabotaging our lives!
 - Freedom for the prisoners.
 - This is breaking chains. What has you chained up? Addiction, sin, anxiety,
 - Sight for the blind.
 - To see how God sees. How He sees this world and you. Right mentality. Avoid misconceptions.
 - **Romans 12:2**
 - Release the oppressed.
 - What has oppressed you in your life? Fear, hate, selfishness, pride, shame, unforgiveness?
 - The year of God's favor. This is the age of grace! What a blessing!!
- Why Rise Up?
 - Hopefully you are excited about your life getting better!
 - But there is work to be done. God needs strong people!
 - More on that next week.
- How do we Rise Up?
 - Let's just go through **2 Peter 1:3-11**.
 - Jesus came to set the captives free. Who are the captives?
 - There's us in here and them out there.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!