

Small Group/Sermon Notes for Vision 2017 Part 2: Rise Up

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 Part 2: Rise Up**
- "Rise Up" is a big emphasis here at Good Hope. Let's get better at following Jesus!
 - The life of the incompetent Christian is frustrating, ineffective, and often becomes an embarrassment to God.
 - The wise Christian lives a life of satisfaction, purpose, and draws people into faith in God. We need to get good at things like: love, forgiveness, faith, and grace!
 - It's about getting better at following Jesus!
- I believe the time is short and we as believers are called to reach the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - The single most powerful strategy for accomplishing this goal is simply helping Christians get better at following Christ!
- Doug Vagle, "Healthy things grow." You don't have to tell them to grow, they just do.
 - **Acts 2:37-47**
 - Great evangelistic/prophetic message from Peter preceded these verses.
 - The church grew from a small number to over 3000!
 - What did they devote themselves to? **Acts 2:42**
 - Advertising did not make the list.
 - What was the result? **Acts 2:47**
 - Why? Healthy things grow!
- I want us to look at the word "worthy" today in a few Scripture passages.
- **Ephesians 4:1**
 - Live a life worthy of the calling.
 - Before we get much further, what does a "life worthy" look like?
 - Remember God is good. This is abundant life. Life to the full.
 - This is a life of love, of grace, of devotion, of generosity, of service, of blessing, of purpose, and of joy.
 - There are a few specifics spelled out: **Ephesians 4:1-3.**
- **Philippians 1:27**
 - "Whatever happens"? What is that referring to?
 - This is living worthy in the face of struggle, opposition, and suffering. **Philippians 1:27-30**
 - Is it always easy? No. But we can honor God in how we walk through trials.
- **Colossians 1:10**
 - Before we go further, can you live a "life worthy"?
 - Don't get hung up on being "unworthy." Seriously.
 - **Romans 3:23** is still true.
 - But so is **Romans 3:24!**
 - Work through **Colossians 1:9-14.**
 - How did Jesus rescue us? Redemption. He paid the price.
 - Last thought of the day: Jesus sees you as worth it.
 - You are worth redeeming. Worthy justifying. Worth loving. Worth forgiving. Worth setting free. Worth healing. Worth empowering. Worth providing for. You are worth it in Jesus' eyes.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!