

Small Group News

SUNDAY SERVICES are ONLINE ONLY (sunrisechurch.org)

OUTDOOR SERVICE on Fridays in September @ All Campuses – 7 PM
Rooted begins September 10th – Register @sunrisechurch.org/rooted

Email need@sunrisechurch.org for assistance

Prayer: Wisdom for Leaders; Outdoor Services; Rooted Launch this month

Small Group Questions

For week of August 30th, 2020

Strong in the Struggle

2 Kings 2

INTRODUCTION

If 2020 had a slogan it would be: The Struggle is Real. Nothing like a worldwide Pandemic, social injustice, and a pending Presidential election to increase the stress in our lives. Some are facing unimaginable battles with grief, loss of income, and family crisis that make the struggle all the more vivid. Some may even ask, “where is God?” But what if God is still at work in the struggle? This month we explore how to react to struggle by discussing the life of Elijah. Our first reaction is to give in to panic, anxiety, and faith crushing doubt. But, as we will discover, we can remain strong in the struggle because God still provides victories, help, justice, and hope; even in the darkest of times.

The focus of the week: **Justice in the Sadness**

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. What was the best and worst part of your week?
2. Would you rather be an extra in an Oscar-winning movie or the lead in a box office bomb?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Pastor Joel taught this week about having hope in God’s power to get you through struggles. How can we live with that kind of confidence?
 - **Read: 2 Peter 1:3-11; Matthew 16:13-19 & 19:23-30; Psalm 46:8-10**
 - Have you ever been in a situation where you felt that all hope was gone? What did you find yourself relying on? How was that situation resolved?
 - How would your life change if you lived as if every promise of God were guaranteed and you believed that God was in control of every situation in your life?
 - What is your favorite promise of God? Why?
 - How have you seen Jesus’ church attacked?
 - How have you seen the church thrive?
 - What would you say to someone who has lost hope?
2. You heard this weekend that in order to bring hope to others you need to “let people in.” For some this is a difficult thought: to be vulnerable with others. What does the bible say about community?
 - **Read: 2 Timothy 2:1-2; Hebrews 10:23-25; Galatians 6:1-3**
 - Which do you like more: large crowds, a small group of friends, or being alone? Explain.
 - Does the thought of letting others get close to you soothe you or stress you out? Why?
 - Who has been a spiritual mentor in life? What did they teach you?

- What are the qualities of a good spiritual mentor?
 - Do you have a mentor now? Are you mentoring anyone yourself? Why or why not?
 - What are some reasons people avoid investing in others or letting people get too close?
 - Why would you recommend joining a small group to someone who is reluctant to do so?
3. Elijah stayed faithful to God even through doubt. In the end, he didn't even live to see some of the struggles regarding Israel's idolatry, or Jezebel and Ahab's reign resolved, yet he remained. As we wrap up this series on staying strong in the struggle discuss the following:
- Discuss a struggle in your life that you have seen resolved?
 - What is a current struggle with which you need to trust God?
 - What legacy do you hope to leave with family and friends?
 - What is one specific step you can take to lay the foundation for the legacy you just shared?

TAKE IT HOME - ROOTED

Starting September 10th all of Sunrise will participate in **The Rooted Experience**.

Rooted is a 10-week small group environment that will help people connect with God, the church, and their purpose while practicing rhythms that will provide a catalyst for life change. The goal is for every person to sign up regardless of how long you have been around church.

We encourage you to sign up using the "Current small group member" option (if you have a group); or choose between Thursdays @7pm or Sundays @1 or 6pm if you are not already in a small group. You can **Sign up for Rooted** at www.sunrisechurch.org/rooted or by texting "Rooted" to (909) 281-7797 and following the link in the return text.

Our promise is if you fully engage in Rooted it will encourage you, it will equip you, and it will empower you to walk closer with God, His people, and His purpose for you than ever before.

We hope to see you there!

GROUP PRAYER