



Sermon-based small groups connect the week to the weekend!

Dig deeper into the talk each week, while getting connected, cared for and known. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life and do it with people just like you to support you on your journey.

Message Info: Rise Up: Out of Discouragement, 4/16/23 - Discouragement is part of life. Where we go in the midst of discouragement is really important. Two disciples, barely made mention of in the Bible, encountered Jesus on the day of His resurrection. They were wandering, confused, and letdown. Jesus knew exactly what they needed...and He knows just what we need too. *(Passages: Luke 24:13-35, Philippians 3:10, Ephesians 1:19-20)*

Discussion Questions: Take your time and dig into these questions.

Where do you “go” when you’re feeling discouraged? Do you seek isolation? Try to drown out your internal dialogue, blend into the crowd to get lost? Or get angry? Does it help?

Read Luke 24:13-35. What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

The disciples are discouraged and confused; they think the story is over. The shock and disappointment of recent events has caused them to forget who God is; a God of redemption and impossible comebacks. When has discouragement clouded and confused your view of God? What happened?

Take note of the disciples’ response to Jesus. It doesn’t include savior, Son of God, or Messiah. They talk about their hope in past tense. Jesus calls them out on this, asking why they’re questioning everything they believe in. But he also responds to the deeper need they have. He presses into that “slowness” of heart, created by discouragement, with a personal encounter. How did the disciples describe the encounter? What did they feel in their hearts? Can you share a time God met you in the midst of discouragement?

All the needs of our hearts are met in this resurrected Jesus. Hope placed in Him is reasonable and reliable. And when we seek Him, He meets us right where we are. How can we apply this truth?

You are more significant than you realize. No matter what your journey, struggles, or failures. Find people on a journey like yours. Talk about what’s going on in your heart and life; your journey really matters. And seek more of this resurrected Jesus.

Group Challenge: Plan to visit the Grace Free Church campus you don’t usually attend for worship service.