

# Embracing True Discipleship



**Isaiah 60:1-3, John 8:28-32**

- This is the Year to Rise Up and Reach Out! There has never been a better moment and a better season than right now.
  - This is a season of growth, but with growth comes with its own unique set of challenges.
  - We must not be afraid of the moment nor the challenges that are before us.
  - Let's rise up and reach out by embracing our challenges with a singular focus on Christ Jesus. (Hebrews 12:1-2)
  - Let's rise up and reach out by embracing Christ's message, mission and passion with a joyful heart to see people lives transformed for Christ.
- What is the Biblical definition of the word "arise?"
1. The word "arise" means to rise, to stand up, to be stirred up, to awake, to be in a state of readiness or to prepare for action (call to service).
  2. It is synonymous to the word to proceed, to come forth, to follow, to spring forward, to soar, to emerge, to grow, to come to light, and to develop.
  3. The word "arise" can also mean or indicate new seasons, increase, overflow, enlargement or expansion of territory. (Joshua 1:1-9)
- Purpose: To ensure that every member is equipped and ready to assist us in making disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - Goal: To grow in our understanding of discipleship as we prepare our hearts for the harvest that God is sending.
  - Spiritual Principles: Authority, Obedience, Stewardship, Agreement, Grace, Faith
- Objectives Lessons:
    1. Purpose of Discipleship
    2. Process of Discipleship
    3. Priority of Discipleship
    4. Patience of Discipleship
    5. Passion of Discipleship

**A. Discipleship and evangelism do go hand and hand. (Matthew 28:19-20)**

- **The Process of discipleship and evangelism can become non-existent when believers begin to focus more upon the things of the world than Jesus Christ.**

○ **There are Three areas that every believer must guard against:**

- 1. Distractions: Don't allow distractions to cause your heart to be filled with doubt and unbelief. Keep your eyes set on Jesus Christ. (Colossians 3:2)**
- 2. Deception: This is an hour of great deception. Stay grounded in Jesus Christ and His Word. (Psalm 119:105)**
- 3. Discouragement: Remember you are not alone. God will never abandon you. (John 14:27, Hebrews 13:5-6)**

○ **There were Three (3) D's that we must remember this year as we "Rise Up and Reach Out."**

- 1. Stay devoted to God.**
- 2. Stay disciplined. (to prayer, fasting, studying of the Word of God)**
- 3. Stay away from anything that will distract you from the mission of Jesus Christ.**

**B. The Believer must embrace the ABC's of Discipleship.**

- 1. They will embrace the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:18-20)**
- 2. They will embrace the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:8, John 14:16-17, 16:13-14)**
- 3. They will embrace Evangelism. (Acts 2:41-47)**
- 4. They will embrace the urgency of Christ to reach the lost with the gospel message. (John 4:34-35)**
- 5. They will embrace the Word of God. (Hebrews 4:11-13)**
- 6. They will embrace Prayer. (Luke 18:1, 1John 5:14-15, Matthew 6:6-8)**
- 7. They will embrace Praise and Worship. (Psalm 95:6)**

- C. We must Embrace that God created us to thrive and not just survive.  
(John 10:10)**
- 1. Before God brought man into existence, He made sure that everything around them was flourishing, in abundance, overflowing, and fruitful. (Genesis. 1:1-31, 2:4-25)**