

RISE UP!
LIVING LIKE A CHAMPION SERIES PT. 1
RAISING CHAMPIONS

Memory Verse:

*“Knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus.”
(2 Corinthians 4:14)*

Ice Breaker

1. Who comes to your mind when you hear the word “champion”, in sports, entertainment, or other industries. What stands out about this person?
2. How would you describe being a spiritual champion? What do you think verses like, *“We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us”* mean? How would you define winning as a Christian?

Consider the following definition: “Winning is fulfilling my purpose and potential in every area that God has called me to represent him, overcoming things that would stop me from that, and doing it all to glorify God and add the most value possible to other people.”

3. What stands out to you about the comeback the disciples made after the resurrection? What is one of the most important ways the resurrection empowered them?
4. What is an example in your life of an area where the Lord has called you to be a “comeback person”? (Someone who refuses to stay back or settle for defeat, who only becomes more determined with every set back). Where is an area that the Lord is especially convicting you about being more of a comeback person?
 - a. Prayer
 - b. Relationships
 - c. Attitudes towards difficulties
 - d. Recovery
 - e. Ministry
5. Which of the four gifts of the resurrection can you especially relate to as a key for a comeback you are pursuing in your life?
 - a. Failure doesn't have to define us. Jesus can use the pain of defeat as the fuel for your next victory.
 - b. I can handle betrayal, hurt, or tragedy by believing in God's sovereign power to take what the enemy tried to use for evil and make it work for good. What is some area of your life you feel you are especially called to believe God will vindicate you and that you can “shake it off” and step-up?

- c. My purpose can always be greater than my pain. What are some of the most important “Why’s” that help you overcome any “What’s”?
 - d. The power of hope that encourages me that “this too shall pass,” the suffering of this world cannot compare with the glory that is to come.
6. How can the group pray with you for an amazing comeback?

Bonus Section: Raising a Champion

One of the most important things you will ever teach those you mentor is how to make a comeback. People’s journey to victory is either advanced or stalled depending on how they come back from things. The saddest thing in the world is when people begin to surrender to failure and hurt on the inside, when they give up or become bitter and not better. That is why talking to your student/child/disciple about your own failures and defeats and how God helped you come back is one of the most important things you can ever do.

At the heart of successful mentoring is helping those we mentor “get wins under their belts.” This is where confidence and perseverance grows in their lives. Empowering parents realize that they can’t and shouldn’t rescue their kids from every hard thing, even though they should protect them from devastating things, as much as they are able. The more you can cheer them on to attempt and overcome hard things by looking to God and digging deep, the more you will set them on a path to be “giant killers.”

Share with each other some of the biggest challenges you’ve walked with those you mentor. How did you balance the tension of empowering versus enabling? What was the biggest challenge for them and you in helping them “fight their way out of the cocoon?”