

# The Uprising: Rising Up to Follow God

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“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” - Colossians 3:1–3

There is a movement happening among the people of God, because of God.

Because of God’s holiness, we stand in awe. Because of God’s sacrifice, we rise from the grave. Because of God’s plan, we live abundantly. Because of God’s message, we spread hope like wildfire.

Are your students longing for truth? Do they understand why God’s truths are of the utmost importance? Do you want to see your students respond to God under the banner of His love?

If you are ready to see your students rise up for His name, His renown, and His glory, then THE UPRISING is for you.

Teach THE UPRISING and challenge your students to seek the things that are above.

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## Small Group Outlines

### **Session 1: Rising Up in Worship**

**What We Want Students to Learn:** That because there is no one like our God, we raise up in worship.

**Main Scripture:** Psalm 95:1–9

**Supplemental Scripture:** Hebrews 12:28

**Session Snapshot:** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God” (Colossians 3:1). This verse captures the heart of the Uprising. There is a difference in the “down here” and the “above.” Scripture calls us to be people with our hearts and minds on the things of God. This is our response to who God is. The four sessions of the Uprising will all utilize the framework of a specific response to who God is. In this first session, we’ll look at worship. Worship is the right response to a recognition of the person and character of God. When we encounter God, our hearts rise to meet Him in praise. This lesson will challenge your students to think about worship not in light of our needs, but in light of who God is.

### **Session 2: Raised to New Life**

**What We Want Students to Learn:** That God’s Son was prophesied, came to earth, lived a perfect, sinless life, died for our sins and rose again to offer us life abundant and everlasting. Because Jesus died for us, we are raised to new life.

**Main Scripture:** Hebrews 10:19-23

**Supplemental Scripture:** Hebrews 9:1-7, 11-15, John 3:16

**Session Snapshot:** In order for something to live, something else must die. This principle is found in nature: you and I must eat plants and animals to survive, a tree must have dead branches stripped away to thrive. It's also true in the spiritual realm: for us to live, there had to be a sacrifice. Today we'll learn how Jesus fulfilled the role that was prophesied and another equally important one: Jesus is not still dead, but He is alive and offering us life eternal with Him.

### **Session 3: Rising Above the World**

**What We Want Students to Learn:** That because God loves us greatly, we rise above the world and love at all costs.

**Main Scripture:** John 13:34–35

**Supplemental Scripture:** John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:1; 1 John 4:19

**Session Snapshot:** Scripture doesn't give us insight into every one of God's decisions. We don't know the "why" behind much of God's will or plan. And that's perfectly acceptable. The Creator doesn't owe the creation an explanation. In trust, we follow God's leading knowing that He is perfectly good and that He acts for His glory and our good. But the Bible does shed light on the motivation behind some of God's actions, and what we see is that overwhelmingly, God is moved to act according to the great love He has for us. As Christ-followers, we are constantly interacting with God's love. What we want to examine in this lesson is how we respond to God's love. What does God's love compel us to do in response to it?

### **Session 4: Raising the Banner of the Gospel**

**What We Want Students to Learn:** Because we have the good news, we go and tell, raising the banner of the Gospel through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Main Scripture:** Romans 10:17

**Supplemental Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

**Session Snapshot:** If the Gospel is important in our lives, it is important that we share it. The good news that Jesus died as a sacrifice for our sins and rose again to offer us eternal life is not meant to be a secret. We've been commissioned to spread this news to others, but we don't do it on our own. Not only has God given believers unique gifts that allow us to share the Gospel in many different ways, but we also have the Holy Spirit as a helper and guide.