



Week 9 | Rise | April 30

Key Focus: Spiritual Parenting.

Opening Up:

What 3 bands are the greatest of all time?

What's the best concert you have ever been too?

Would you rather go to a single concert and stay at a nice hotel or camp at a concert festival with tons of your favorite bands?

At a concert would rather stand on the front row with rowdy fans or sit in the back grass field and chill with friends? has this changed with time?

If you had the choice between seeing your favorite band in the optimum venue with optimum seats and fan experience, and any other event, what would the other event have to be to top that concert experience?

Reference: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

Discuss:

1. On a scale of one to ten how well do you do at counseling others? What makes for a good counselor in a friend?
2. How would you describe what discernment is to someone?
3. How does someone get discernment?
4. Why is discipleship best described as spiritual parenting?
We are told in 5:14 to "admonish idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak." In other words we are told to, confront issues of the will; comfort issues of the heart; and, instruct issues of the mind.
5. How can you discern the difference between issues of the will, heart, or mind?
6. What type of care are you better at giving: instruction, comfort, or confrontation? Why do you think that is so?
7. What happens when you miss-match the type of care with an issue? How have you seen each of these to be true?
 1. You should only confront issues of the will. You should never confront issues of the mind or heart.
 1. If you confront issues of the mind, you will close the mind or promote insecurities.
 2. If you confront issues of the heart, you will harden the heart or break the spirit.
 2. You should only comfort issues of the heart; you should never comfort issues of the mind or will.
 1. If you comfort issues of the mind, you will disable a person's development.
 2. If you comfort issues of the will, you will enable bad behavior.
 3. You only instruct issues of the mind; you should never instruct issues of the heart or will.
 1. If you instruct issues of the heart, you will lose their confidence.
 2. If you instruct issues of the will, you will lose their respect.
8. In what ways do you need to be a better spiritual parent to others? What do you need in your life right now: confrontation, comfort, or instruction?
9. In 5:16-22 we are told that suppressing the word in community will result in quenching the Spirits fire in our lives and this results in a lack of rejoicing, prayer, and thanksgiving. How have you seen this to be true?
10. Pray