

“Rise Up!”



Message by
Drew Crandall,
Founder & Director
of Jacob's Well,
delivered “live”
at the September 3,
2008 coffeehouse.

At each coffeehouse, for 13 years, Founder & Director Drew Crandall listens to the music and the message of the guest performers and shares a spontaneous Gospel message based on the content. On September 3, 2008, Drew shared a message based on a song performed by Faithful Folk called “Rise Up.”

When you rise up, what do you rise up from?

Physically, you rise up from sleeping, sitting, or being disengaged. You rise up to stand and move forward.

Mentally and intellectually, you rise up from sleeping, sitting, or being disengaged. Your rise up to stand and move forward.

Emotionally, you rise up from sleeping, sitting, or being disengaged. You rise up to stand and move forward.

Spiritually, you rise up from sleeping, sitting, or being disengaged. You rise up to stand and move forward.

What motivates us to sleep and sit, to be disengaged, when we can rise up, stand and move forward? There are many external and internal factors. Many external and internal excuses. Fears. Discouragement. Weariness. You can be afraid or tired of standing for, and moving forward in, Christ in a culture that's skeptical and cynical.

In the Book of 2 Timothy, St. Paul's protégé, Timothy, was getting discouraged, tired. Paul wrote this letter to encourage him to stand up and keep moving forward. In the first and second chapters, he writes, *Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, to Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also. Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began... Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound. Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.*

RISE UP! Tomorrow is a new day! God has saved us. He has given us a Holy Calling. Given us the Holy Spirit of power, love and soundness of mind. We are secure in Him. Be strong! Endure hardness. Go for it. ENGAGE!