

Encouraging Women to Rise Up

Acts 26:16

Main idea: To inspire and empower women to rise up and fulfill their purpose, using biblical examples and teachings

Topic: God is Working

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon on encouraging women to rise up:

1. **Emphasize God's faithfulness:** Expand on the idea that God is always working in the lives of His people, including women. Highlight how God's faithfulness can empower women to rise up and fulfill their purpose. Consider incorporating Psalm 138:8, which states, "The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands."
2. **Explore biblical examples:** Share stories of women in the Bible who rose up and made a significant impact. For instance, discuss the courage and determination of Esther (Esther 4:14) or the faithfulness and leadership of Deborah (Judges 4-5). These examples can inspire and encourage women to rise up in their own lives.
3. **Highlight the power of the Holy Spirit:** Discuss how the Holy Spirit empowers believers, including women, to fulfill their calling and rise up. Incorporate Galatians 5:22-23, which describes the fruits of the Spirit, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Explain how these qualities can enable women to overcome obstacles and make a difference.

4. Address common challenges: Acknowledge that there may be obstacles or doubts that hinder women from rising up. Offer practical suggestions on how to overcome these challenges, such as seeking support from a mentor or joining a community of like-minded individuals. Encourage women to trust in God's strength and promises, using Isaiah 41:10 as a reference: "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

5. Incorporate relevant language from the original Scriptures: If appropriate, explore the original languages of the Scripture passages you have already included. For example, in Acts 26:16, the Greek word for "rise up" is "anistēmi," which can also mean "stand up" or "take a stand." Highlight the significance of this word choice and how it relates to your sermon's message. Additionally, consider exploring other instances where this word is used in the Bible, such as Acts 2:14 or Ephesians 6:13, to provide further context and application.

Remember to weave these suggestions seamlessly into your existing sermon outline, reinforcing your main ideas and encouraging women to rise up in their faith and purpose.