



## **Week 2 | Rise | March 12**

**Key Focus: Spiritual development is best through spiritual parenting.**

### **Opening Up:**

- would you rather:
  - windows down and music up or windows up and music down
  - 80's hair band or 70's folk rock
  - Celine Dion on loop for ever or Mariah Carey on loop for ever
  - orchestra in the park or rock band in the bar
  - country music or hip hop
  - feel the music or hear the lyrics
  - sing alone in the shower or sing karaoke with friends
  - female folk rock vocalist or male hard rock vocalist
  - (create your own)

**Reference: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

### **Discuss:**

1. How does the gospel help you when life gets hard? (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
2. If someone asked you to explain the Christian (or gospel) lifestyle, how would you describe it? How are you doing at it?
3. Read and discuss this poem. Do you agree?
  - I'd rather see a sermon than hear one, any day;
  - I'd rather one would walk with me than merely show the way.
  - The eye's a better pupil, more willing than the ear;
  - Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear.
4. If someone asked you, "how is the church like family?" What would you say?
5. How is spiritual development like parenting? (1 Thessalonians 2:7,11)
6. How is being parented in life different than being taught in the classroom?
7. What parts of the Christian life can not be taught in the classroom? Why?
8. In 1 Thessalonians 2:7 Paul says he loves the church like a nursing mom and in Isaiah 49:15 God says he loves us like a nursing mom. What is unique about the love of nursing mom?
9. What is unique about Dad's love? How do the words exhort, encourage, and charge, found in 1 Thessalonians 2:12 describe a dad's love?
10. We all need two voices. The voice of mom says: I love you. The voice of dad says: I believe in you. Which of those two voices do you need hear the most? Explain.
11. Which voice is easiest for you to give, the voice of love, or the voice of belief? Why is the other voice harder to give?
12. Pray.