



15 Year Message | Shawn Johnson | 1.12.19
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

If you could add anyone to Mount Rushmore who would it be; why?

SHARE

Welcome to another semester of Group! We are kicking off this year with a brand-new series called 167. There are 168 hours in a week, but you only spend one of those in church. This series is about using this one hour in church to help you follow Jesus the rest of the week. Christianity is not about creating churchgoers; it's about building Jesus followers, and Jesus calls us to follow him in every part and every hour of our life!

Before we dive in, take some time to check in with your group by answering the following questions:

Did you decide to set any New Year's Resolutions this year? If so, how are they going so far?

Choose three words to describe how you are feeling about this semester of Group. Why did you pick the words you did?

GROW

Read Matthew 7:24-29

**What do you know about this passage? Where and when does Jesus say these words?
How does that change the way you understand what He is saying?**

What do you think it means to build your house on the sand? What does it mean to build your house on the rock?

This passage takes place at the very end of the Sermon on the Mount, the most famous sermon of all time. For three chapters, Jesus has been giving the crowd wise words to build their life on. Then He stops and likens obeying these words to building your home on the rock instead of the sand. In the illustration, both houses experience storms, but only one is strong enough to withstand the wind.

The last 15 years have been a beautiful example of this for our church. We have encountered our fair share of storms. However, Jesus is the foundation of Red Rocks, and so no matter what challenges come our way, God continues working in and through us!

My guess is, you've experienced this principle in your own life. Life throws curveballs at us. You and I will experience challenges. It's not a matter of "If" it is a matter of "when." So, as you look forward to 2020, you have an opportunity to strengthen your foundation and be ready for whatever comes your way.

Scripture says "a house built on the rock will be able to stand in the storm." Have you ever seen this truth play out in your own life? Tell your group about the experience.

What is one way one practical way you can work toward "building your house on the rock" this week?

M O V E

Read 2 Corinthians 12:1-9

Did Paul's words in this passage surprise you? Why or why not?

Paul was one of the most effective Christian leaders in the history of the world, yet he was well aware that "God's strength is made perfect in his weakness." What can we learn from this? How can you apply those principles to this next year?

For the last two weeks, Shawn has been very vulnerable about his recent journey. As he shared this week, it all began when his mentor asked him: “When will you take the condition of your spiritual life into your own hands and start fighting?”

This year, we all have an amazing opportunity to answer the same question. At some point, we all have to stop making excuses and begin putting in the hard work to be the men and women we were created to be. We want to be a church full of spiritually mature and emotionally healthy Christians who can love our city well! So, this year, we are going to get serious about our own walks with Jesus.

There are several layers to spiritual formation, so let’s begin by setting some goals in the four most foundational categories.

#1 Prayer: Prayer is the most underutilized weapon we have as Christians. What do you want your prayer life to look like this year?

#2 Word: The Bible is packed full of God’s promises for our lives. The more time we spend reading, meditating, and memorizing these words, the stronger our foundation will be. How are you going to be a student of God’s Word this year?

#3 Worship: Worship is how we remind ourselves that God is on the throne. How are you going to implement worship in your life this year?

#4 People: The Christian Journey was never meant to be taken alone. Being in a Group is one of the best things you can do for your walk with God. What are your goals for your Group this semester?

Let’s spend the rest of our time, setting some goals for the semester. Take five minutes to walk through each of these four categories on your own and write down some goals and a game plan for achieving those goals. After that, come back together and share your answers with the rest of your group.

#1 Prayer:

#2 Word:

#3 Worship:

#4 People:

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying with and for each other. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to share more freely.

T O G O

Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

– Matthew 13:8