

Sermon Discussion Guide

Redeemer Church /// Fall Vision Series, 2012

Week 2: Get Trained

WORSHIP JESUS 

GET TRAINED 

LIVE IN COMMUNITY 

BE ON MISSION 

INTRODUCTION

For the month of September, we are discussing the 4 core values that we hope will define the people and ministry of Redeemer. This week, we are talking about “Get Trained”. When some hear the word training, they think of going to the gym. For Christians, though, we often think of attending classes or increasing our “knowledge”. However, just as an athlete trains for athletic competition, scripture exhorts the Christian to be trained, not for the sake of mere knowledge, but to carry out the ministry and mission to which God has called us.

READ Luke 6:39-40, Ephesians 4:1-16

DISCUSSION

Have you ever met someone (or been someone) for whom training and study became a pursuit of knowledge merely for the sake of knowledge? How did you feel when you were around that person?

EXPLANATION

- From the Luke 6 text, what is the ultimate goal of every Christian, and what does that mean? Who do we want to be like? (*to be like our teacher, Jesus - conformed into his image*)
- What are the 3 M's that every Christian needs to grow in? (*maturity, ministry, & mission*)
 - What are the differences between each of those?
 - And how does training help us to grow in each?
- Jeff says that when we are totally trained, we enable the body of Christ to work properly. What does that mean, and what does it look like?
- Are you not ministering to others because you don't think you're equipped, yet not getting equipped? Does this come from a mentality that ministry is meant for the 'professionals'?

APPLICATION

- Are there ways that you find yourself showing up at church (gym), but not practicing (exercising), and then complaining because you're not maturing (fit)? What ways do you do this?
- Where do you feel as if you have “atrophied”, and why?
- Do you ever find yourself complaining about what you're not getting Sunday, in CG, or other Christian relationships? Examine your heart for self centeredness (if so, confess & repent). Where is God calling you be others-centered in ministry?
- What are some tangible ways in which you can pursue training in areas of your weakness (whether maturity, ministry, or mission)?