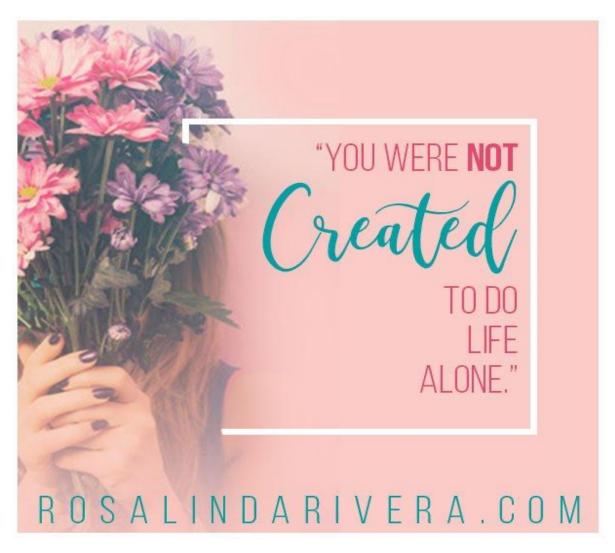
DARE TO BEGIN Again

Rosalinda Rivera

Let God Write Your Best Future



It's time we take a stand and say 'NO MORE' to defeat. Together, we will fight the battle against the principalities of the air and even our own mindsets and this time, we will win. We will Decide, Allow, Rise, and Enjoy the life God has promised to us while still here on this earth. We won't give up, we won't give in, we won't hide, but we will DARE each other... to Begin Again.

Small Group Curriculum, Sirece Thomas

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Introduction - Outline

| Focus | Is your life where you want it to be? | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Scripture | John 8:32 | | |
| Hook | Together we will be coached and coach each other through this new challenge to dare to begin again. Pastor Rosalinda lets us know right off the back that this won't be easy. This will take commitment, your commitment. Change is a process and it doesn't happen overnight and we have to be committed to the process. Coaches don't tell you what you want to hear, they tell you what you need to hear. They tell you to push when you want to stop, slow down when you start rushing, and to be patient right when you are ready to give up. Beginning again is a courageous effort, but together we will succeed. | | |
| Main Points | I.Perfect Strength | | |
| | a. Ask the Lord what you cannot do | | |
| | b. Forgive Yourself and Others | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | I. Disconnecting | | |
| | a. Give Yourself Permission | | |
| | b. Change Your Route | | |
| | | | |
| | I. Accountability Partners | | |
| | a. Who Is Your Person | | |
| | b. We Fail only in Isolation | | |
| | or we run only in isolation | | |
| | | | |
| | 7. Transparency | | |
| | a. Remove the Mask | | |
| | b. Falling is Not Failure | | |
| Reflections/Qu estions | 1. What are some things in your life you cannot control where only God can do what you can't? | | |
| | 2. Who or what can you disconnect from this week? Remember, baby steps. | | |
| | 3. Have you solidified an accountability partner? Why this person? | | |
| | 4. Are you ready to go places you have been hiding for a long time? | | |
| Concluding | Discuss with your small group coach the number one thing that may have you stuck | | |
| Applications | in beginning again and committing to the process of change. Action steps to be | | |
| | reviewed next | | |
| | meeting. | | |
| | | | |

Intro. You don't have to accept things for where they are. God is still writing your story and he wants you to keep going. Let's put some intentional thinking and action to these words and get ready to begin again.

| Action | Response | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
| John 8:32- Then you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free. | | | | |
| - That thing that seems impossible, ask God to give you the strength to do | | | | |
| - Find one person who can be your accountability partner through this | | | | |
| - Take off the mask and be transparent with God and your | NCCSSOX Newton-PRE | | | |
| accountability partner. Share your heart. | | | | |
| 1. Are you ready to go places you have been hiding for a long time? | | | | |
| 2. What has been stopping you from starting over? | | | | |
| | | | | |
| 3. What do you feel you have to lose in beginning again? | | | | |
| | | | | |



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Chapter 1: Begin Again - Outline

| Focus | What would it mean for you to begin again? | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| Scripture | Philippians 4:13 | | |
| Hook | In this chapter Pastor Rosalinda discusses growing up around 'street people' who seemed impossible to ever experience a change in lifestyle. Over the years, she has witnessed over twenty thousand people come off the streets. Now on their efforts this was unimaginable, but with God it was more than possible. They stopped writing their own stories and allowed God to write their stories. This is what we are going to do in the area of our lives that we have given up on. We are going to put down the pen and hand it over to God, because He is not done with you yet. The way a diamond is formed from a grimy piece of rock, is how God deals with us, artfully cutting away our flaws until we are shining at our fullest most beautiful potential. | | |
| Main Points | I.Simply Stuck | | |
| | a. Thoughtless Decisionsb. Shame Speaks | | |
| | Bible Heroes a. The Author never Stops Writing b. Potential Greatness | | |
| | a. Living in Your Stink b. Blame Shifting (John 5:1-15) c. Immediate Obedience | | |
| | D.A.R.E.a. Decide, Allowb. Rise, Enjoy | | |
| Reflections/Qu | 1. Where are you stuck? What led you to this place of bondage? | | |
| estions | 2. Which hero can you relate to most in the Bible? Why?3. Have you become complacent in areas you don't even realize?4. Who/What are you blaming and what responsibility do you have in your situation? | | |
| Concluding Applications | Discuss with your small group coach a time or times when you knew exactly what God was asking you to do and instead of immediate obedience, you did nothing or something you thought would work better for you. Action steps to be reviewed next meeting. | | |

I. So many times we get stuck in a place, situation, relationship, or mindset and we don't even realize it. In order to begin again, we have to awaken ourselves to the story God is writing, and not our own.

| Action | Response |
|--|---------------------------|
| Philippians 4:13- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. | |
| - Name two thoughtless decisions that you make daily that you can become more intentional about changing | |
| - Read the stories of one of the biblical heroes mentioned on pg. 20 who also had to decide to begin again. Choose one you can relate to the most and explain why. | Metio 2004 September 1999 |
| - Write down at least two things/people/experiences/circumstances you blame for not seeing progress and then explain what could happen if you stopped focusing on those things and decided to still begin again. | |
| 1. What in your life are you most fearful or hesita | nt of beginning again? |
| | |
| 2. Is there a 'smell' in your life that you decided to | o just accept? |
| | |
| | |



3. What do you feel God is asking immediate obedience from you?

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Chapter 2: Dream Again - Outline

| Focus | Have you already experienced your best days? | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Scripture | Ruth | | |
| Hook Main Points | In this chapter Pastor Rosalinda shares her testimony on how she reached rock bottom. She had experienced her dreams coming true and then it all came to a painful un expected halt. Life pretty much flipped upside down for her and that is when the lies began to sneak in. However, while she was wallowing, God was planning a surprise for her. She experiences an uncommon presence of God and He spoke into her life, reassuring her future. Right when she began to think her windows of opportunities had passed, God stepped in. This is much like Naomi's story in the book of Ruth. Her life was flipped upside down, she experienced the depths of depression, pain, and bitterness, but despite all she lost, God was still writing her story and He is still writing yours. 1. 'The Days' | | |
| | a. Whisper the truth b. He's still writing | | |
| | I. Pen of Promise | | |
| | a. The Uncommon Presenceb. His promises are not void | | |
| | Greater Plans a. Bitter and Useful b. Take back what was stolen c. Everything you need, you have | | |
| | God Doors a. He gets all the Glory b. No man can open or shut them | | |
| Reflections/Qu estions | What is the time in your life you keep looking back to as if those were the best days of your life yet? What do you think is included in the story He is still writing for your life with His 'pen of promise.'? How would you describe better days ahead? Where do you need to stop trying to open doors on your own and let God do it? | | |
| Concluding Applications | Discuss with your small group coach a few dreams you have let go of. Explain why and what it would take for you to revive those dreams. Write them down, make a plan, and give it God. Action steps to be reviewed next meeting. | | |