



# *focus*

RISE UP! WORSHIP SERIES

# Isaiah 40:21

40:21 Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

## Isaiah 40:22

40:22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;

# Isaiah 40:23

40:23 who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

# Isaiah 40:24

40:24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.



# Isaiah 40:25

40:25 To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

# Isaiah 40:26

40:26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

# Isaiah 40:27

40:27 Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?



# Isaiah 40:28

40:28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

# Isaiah 40:29-30

40:29 He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

40:30 Even youths will faint and be  
weary, and the young will fall  
exhausted;

# Isaiah 40:31

40:31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

A photograph of a person from behind, wearing a white shirt, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship. The scene is set in a church or large gathering, with many people visible in the background. The entire image is overlaid with a blue tint. The text "Rise Up!" is written in a large, white, bold, sans-serif font across the center. Below it, the words "WORSHIP SERIES" are written in a smaller, white, all-caps, sans-serif font. A thin white horizontal line separates the two text elements.

# *Rise Up!*

WORSHIP SERIES



God is  
**Speaking**

RISE UP! WORSHIP SERIES

A man with dreadlocks and a patterned scarf is meditating in a lotus position on a metal grate floor. He has his eyes closed and hands resting on his knees with palms facing up. The background is a busy public space with many people walking, blurred to suggest motion. In the distance, a large domed building is visible. The entire image has a blue color cast.

*listen*

RISE UP! WORSHIP SERIES



# move

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A woman with curly hair, wearing a patterned top, has her right hand raised in a gesture of worship. In the background, a man is visible, also appearing to be part of a worship service. The scene is dimly lit, with a purple hue.

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# *answer*

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# *focus*

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# But first a homiletical and exegetical correction

STRONGS NT 1544: ἐκβάλλω

ekballo: I throw, cast, put out, banish, bring forth, produce

- Original Word: ἐκβάλλω
- Part of Speech: Verb
- Transliteration: ekballo
- Phonetic Spelling: (ek-bal'-lo)
- 81 variations used in the NT



But first a homiletical and  
exegetical correction

Right greek word, but I used it in  
conjunction with the wrong Jesus  
miracle. It was about casting out  
demons not calming the seas.

# The Definition of FOCUS

*noun*

1. the center of interest or activity.
  - an act of concentrating interest or activity on something.
  - the point of origin of an earthquake
  - the principal site of an infection
  - the part of a sentence given prominence, usually for emphasis or contrast

**focus**

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# The Definition of FOCUS

*noun*

2. another term for focal point.

- the point at which an object must be situated with respect to a lens or mirror for an image of it to be well defined.
- a device on a lens that can be adjusted to produce a clear image.

# The Definition of FOCUS

*noun*

3. one of the fixed points from which the distances to any point of a given curve, such as an ellipse or parabola, are connected by a linear relation.

# The Definition of FOCUS

*verb*

- (of a person or their eyes) adapt to the prevailing level of light and become able to see clearly.
- cause (one's eyes) to focus.
- adjust the focus of (a telescope, camera, or other instrument).

# The Definition of FOCUS

*verb*

- (of rays or waves) meet at a single point.
- (of a lens) make (rays or waves) meet at a single point.
- (of light, radio waves, or other energy) become concentrated into a sharp beam of light or energy.
- (of a lens) concentrate (light, radio waves, or energy) into a sharp beam.

**focus**

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# The Definition of FOCUS

*verb*

- pay particular attention to.
- concentrate.
- place the focus on (a part of a sentence).

# The Rise Up and Focus

What is God asking us to FOCUS on?

Why is God asking us to FOCUS on it?

Is something pulling our FOCUS away from where God wants it or needs it to be?

# The Rise Up and Focus

Are there aspects of life that are out of FOCUS?

Are there aspects of life that need more FOCUS?

What is the FOCUS?

What should be the FOCUS?

# The Rise Up and Focus

We should focus on God because God is focused on us.

When it feels like God's focus is on us or we are out of focus, what could we or should we do?

# Isaiah 40:26

40:26 Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

# The Rise Up and Focus

Could we FOCUS like God?

Could we FOCUS on God?

Could we FOCUS on what God  
FOCUSES on?

# The Definition of FOCUS

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- **1.** the center of interest or activity.
- an act of concentrating interest or activity on something.
- the point of origin of an earthquake
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# THE FOCI of WCOH 2018

the center of interest or activity (of light, radio waves, or other energy) become concentrated into a sharp beam of light or energy.

(of a lens) concentrate (light, radio waves, or energy) into a sharp beam.

**focus**

RISE UP! WORSHIP SERIES



The Ultimate Focus is...  
Making disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the  
world.



Next week...

**focus**  
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God is  
**Speaking**

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And all of God's people  
said, "Amen."



# *focus*

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