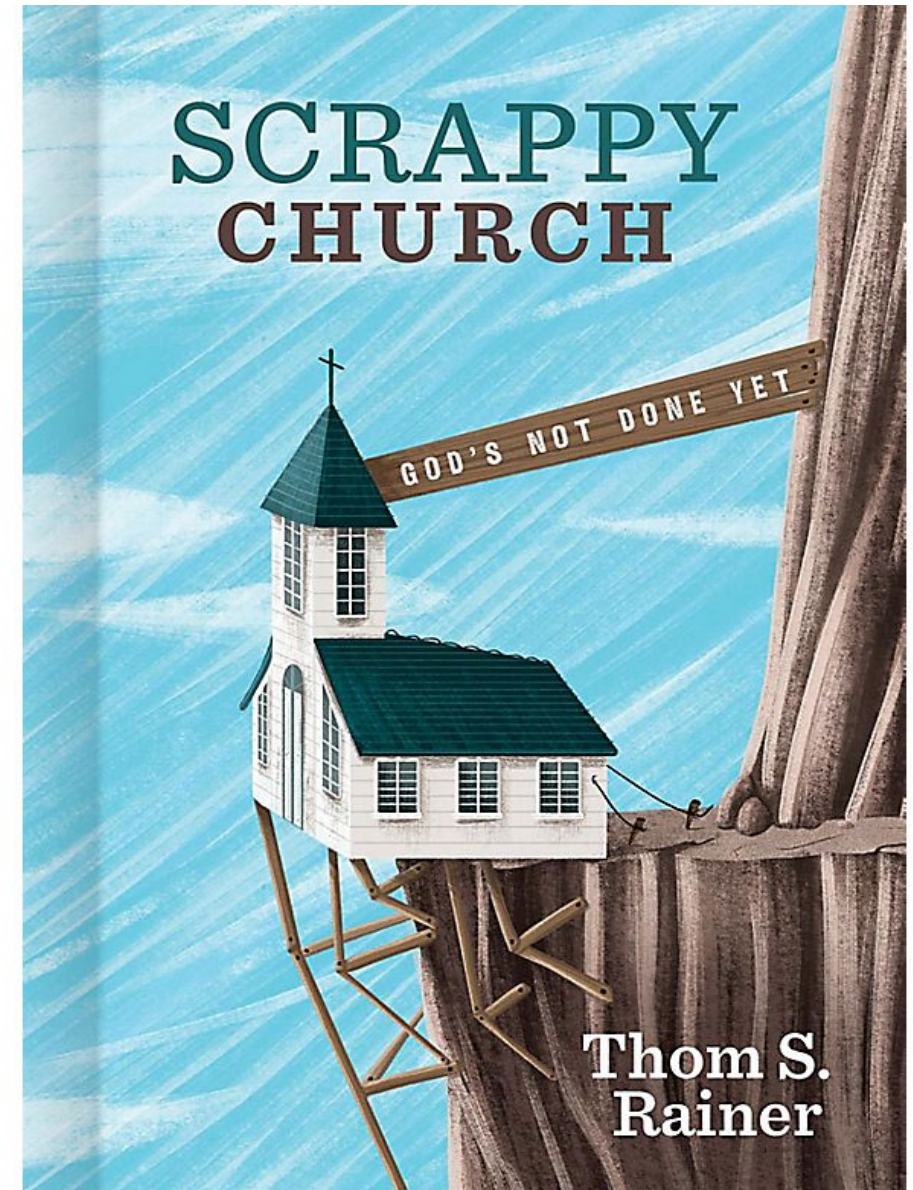


SCRAPPY CHURCH

GOD'S NOT DONE YET

Six Chapters - Six Sessions

1. Why You Should Have Hope for Your Church
2. Preparing to Be a Scrappy Church
3. The Outward Deluge of Scrappy Churches
4. Scrappy Churches Are Welcoming Churches
5. Scrappy Churches Close the Back Door
6. The Next Scrappy Church



SCRAPPY CHURCH

GOD'S NOT DONE YET

Scripture Study: Session 1

SCRAPPY CHURCH



Thom S.
Rainer



Chapter One: Why You Should Have Hope For Your Church

- *Philippians 4:4-19*
- *1 Corinthians 13:4-5*
- *Joshua 1:9*



MAIN POINT

Scrappy churches are those that refuse to give up, believing God is at work and **the best days are still to come.**

Introduction... Discussion Questions

- Share three (3) words that you believe describe your church CURRENTLY.
- What DREAMS do you have for your church?
- What obstacles do you fear might keep your church from reaching those dreams?



- *“God is not done with your church. He put your church in your location for a reason”* (pg. 5).
- We know that God uses His people to accomplish His purposes.
- No matter what has happened before or what obstacles stand in the way...

A person is shown in silhouette from the back, looking through a telescope. The background is a city skyline at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon, casting a warm, orange glow over the scene. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The person's hands are visible, holding the telescope. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

What stood out to you as especially meaningful in chapter one of Scrappy Church? Explain.

Did you find yourself at any point thinking, “Yeah, but . . .”? Explain.

Philippians 4:19

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



Read: Philippians 4:19 & Joshua 1:9

- What can you know about God and your church from these verses?
- Regarding these verses, Dr. Rainer asks: "Do you believe it for your church?" Do you? Why or why not?
- What are some signs you might have begun to believe the Bible is applicable to other churches and leaders, but not your church and your leadership?



Reflect on the History of your church...

- How have the promises in these two verses come to fruition?
- How does this give you confidence in the future of your church?

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

⁴ Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

Philippians 4:4,8

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



Read: 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 & Philippians 4:4,8

- What is the relationship between loving people and being a scrappy church?
- What is the relationship between your thought life and being a scrappy church?



Reflect on the Current State of your church...

- Which is a bigger challenge for you currently:
 - seeing people as allies instead of obstacles? - or -
 - thinking about what is good and joyful instead of what causes you despair?
- What do you need to do about that?

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



Read: Philippians 4:13

- What seems impossible for your church?
- How does this verse speak to that impossibility?



Reflect on the ways people think about your church...

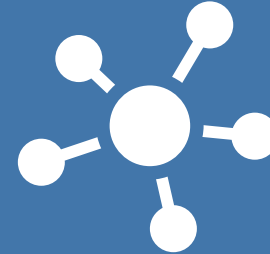
- What are some ways people might misinterpret what this verse means about being a scrappy church?

APPLICATION



How can we, as a group, help each other transition from excuses to ownership?

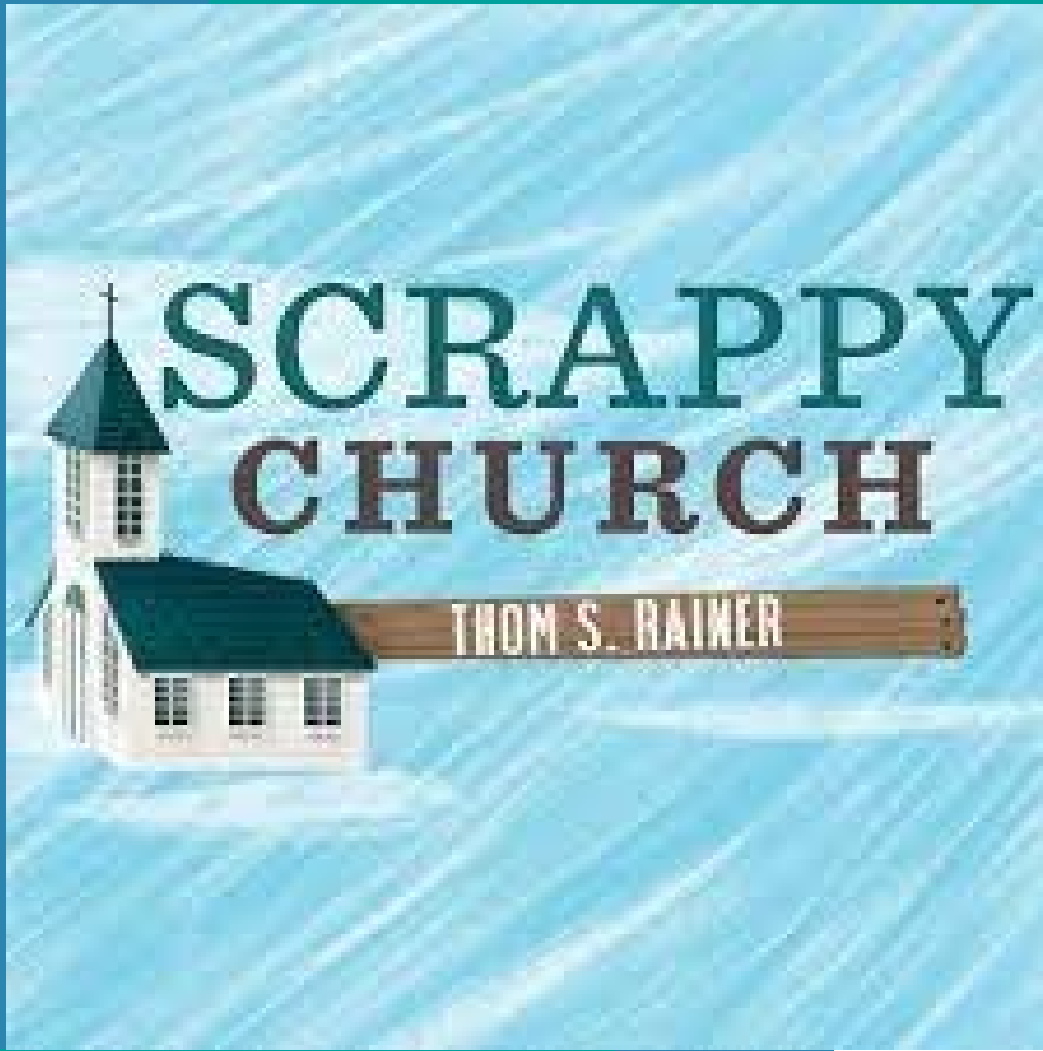
After studying this first chapter of Scrappy Church, how are you encouraged? How are you challenged?



Do you have **hope** for your church?

What is one way you can demonstrate that **hope** this week?





CLOSING PRAYER

- We thank you God, our heavenly Father, for placing your church where You have placed it and for placing us here in it for such a time as this.
- We ask you Lord, to show us what transitions we need to make to be a scrappy church so that we might get to experience the best that is certainly still to come.
- In Jesus' Name. AMEN.



MAIN POINT

Scrappy churches are those that refuse to give up, believing God is at work and **the best days are still to come.**