

## OPENING 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 # 1

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



## MAIN POINT # 2

Scrappy churches take on the mind of Christ, believing God has a plan for them, praying for a turnaround, celebrating the presence of other churches, and greatly increasing their efforts on outward focus.

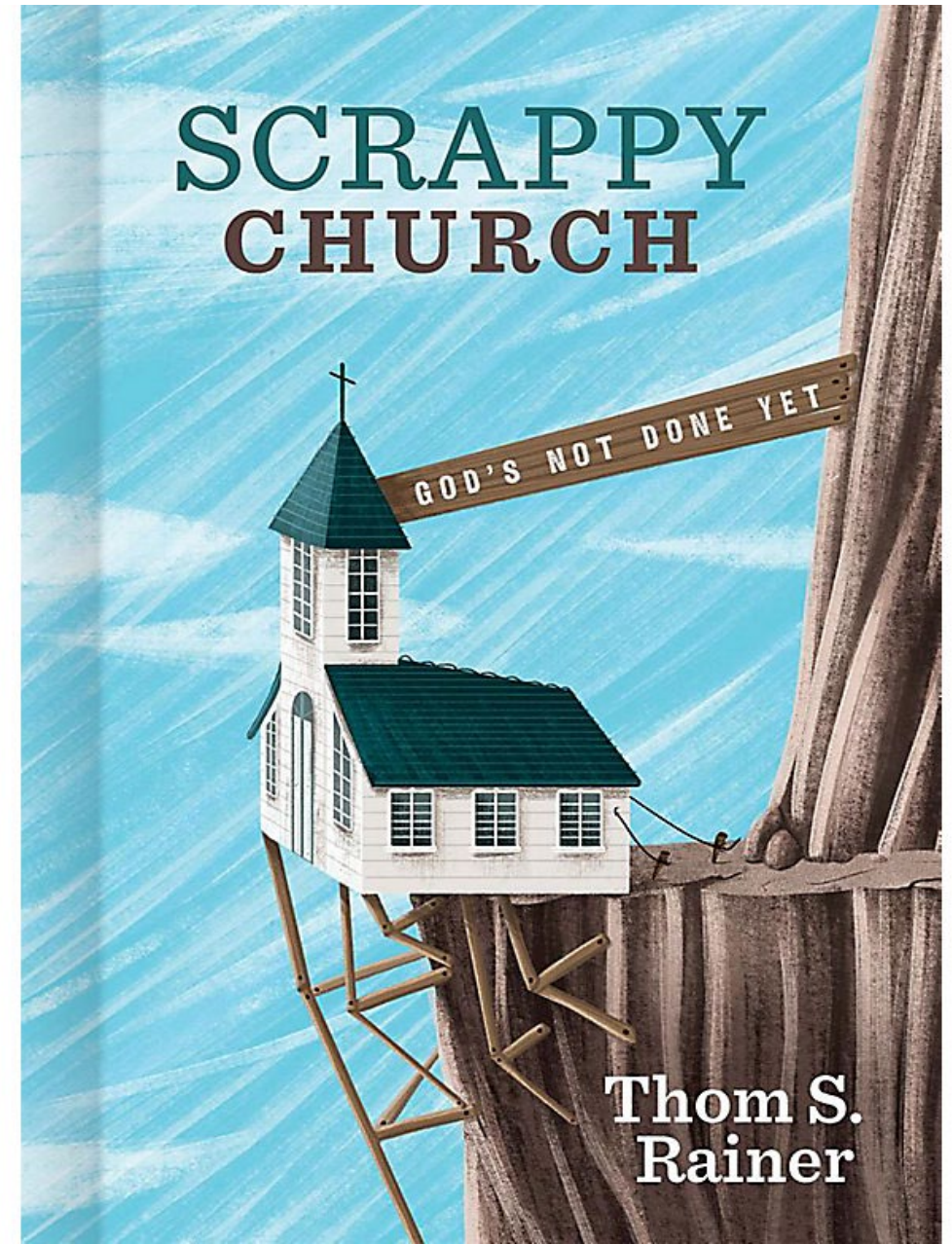


# SCRAPPY CHURCH

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 3

The Outward Deluge of  
Scrappy Churches

# SCRAPPY CHURCH



Thom S.  
Rainer



## Chapter Three: The Outward Deluge of Scrappy Churches

- *John 4:27-38*





## MAIN POINT # 3

Scrappy churches commit to an outward deluge through sustained, seasonal, and special focus.

# INTRODUCTION... DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever been in a church situation where it was necessary to “circle the wagons”?
- If so, explain.
- If not, what might cause leadership to adopt such a mentality?



When there are problems in the church, the tendency is to pour our attention and resources inward.

Rather than pouring our energies into community and growth, we lower our aim and shoot for simply keeping those who remain happy.



# INTRODUCTION... DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is dangerous about directing church focus internally?
- Is Dr. Rainer's point in chapter 3 of *Scrappy Church* that we should never focus on or address internal issues?  
In your own words, what is his point?



In our efforts to stop the internal bleeding, we end up neglecting the external, letting those who are desperately injured continue to remain so.

In the process, we neglect the mandates of the Great Commission and Great Commandment, and we continue to struggle.

**What was your initial response to the call to an “outward deluge” in chapter three of Scrappy Church?**

**What fears might keep us from increasing outreach efforts in a time when the church is struggling?**



## John 4:27-38

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” <sup>28</sup> So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” <sup>30</sup> They went out of the town and were coming to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.”



## John 4:27-38 (continued)

<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

# UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



## Read: John 4:27-38

- What insight does verse 31 give into the disciples' reaction to Jesus in verse 27?
- Why was Jesus more concerned about talking to the woman than he was about eating (vv. 34-35)?



## Reflect on the Attitudes of your church...

- Based on verse 35, what can we know is always true about our church?

# UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



## Considering John 4:27-38

- What have you heard people give as reasons for putting off doing God's will and work until a later time?
- What are potential dangers of believers' failing to see the urgency of doing God's work now?



## Reflect on the Current State of your thinking...

- What insights about discipleship does Jesus' parable of sowing and reaping teach us?



# Matthew 28:18-19

## **The Great Commission**

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

# UNDERSTANDING FROM SCRIPTURE



In **YOUR** church context, which statement **CHALLENGES** you the most? Explain.

**A)** “You need to lead the church to replace busyness with effectiveness”

**B)** “In many of our churches, we simply need to replace the good with great”

**C)** “Life is too short to settle for mediocrity”

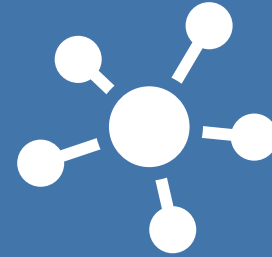
**D)** “Your members will add capacity if they feel like they are doing something meaningful”

# APPLICATION



What current  
“seasonal”  
efforts are we  
doing well?

What are  
some  
possibilities  
we might  
implement?

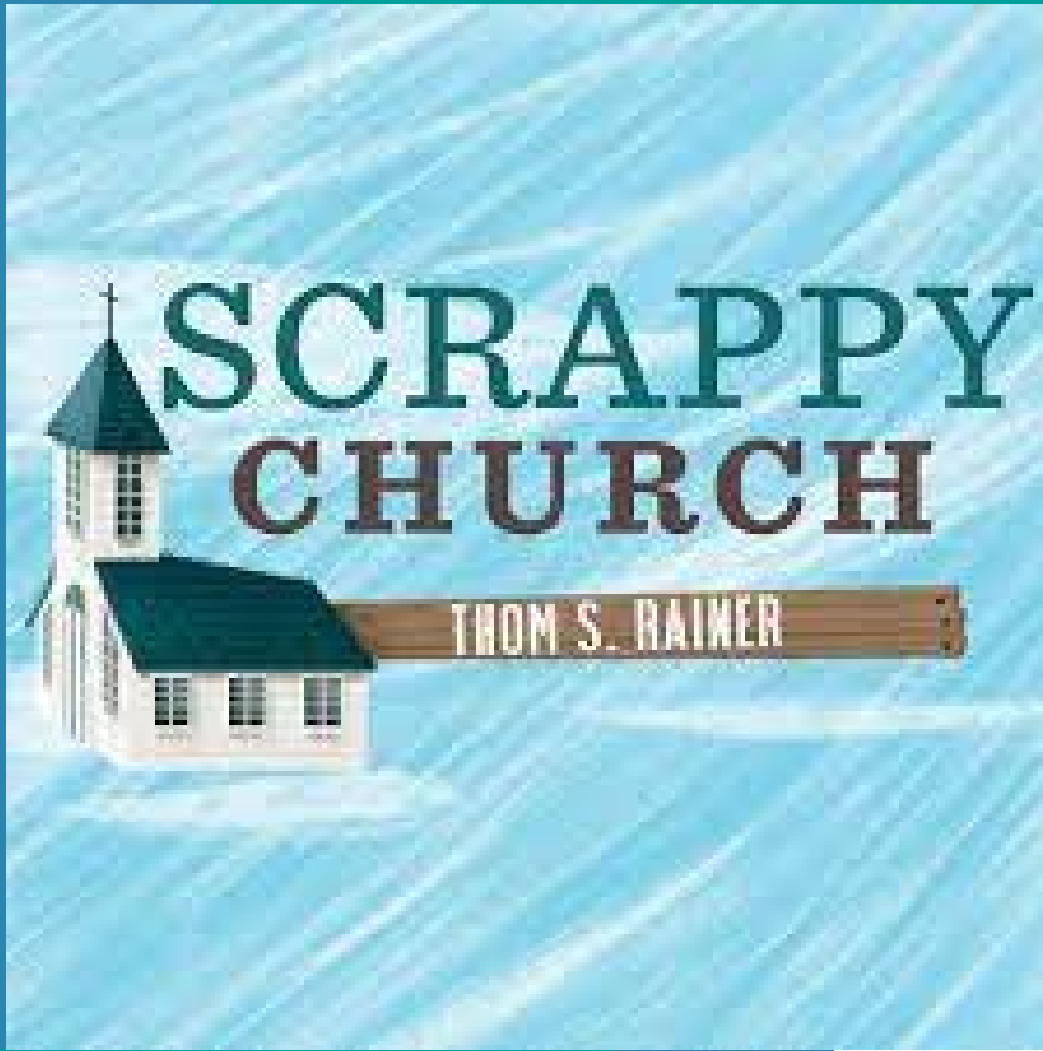


What special  
outward focus  
would be  
especially  
fitting and  
meaningful in  
our particular  
community?

How can we  
better sustain  
focus on an  
outward deluge  
of ministry in our  
community?







## CLOSING PRAYER

- We thank you God, our heavenly Father, for Your calling to go and make disciples and the ways He equips your church to fulfill that calling.
- We ask You to renew our passion, efforts, and commitment to reaching your community.
- Show us, Lord, how to do that effectively.
- In Jesus' Name. AMEN.



# MAIN POINT # 1

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



## MAIN POINT # 2

Scrappy churches take on the mind of Christ, believing God has a plan for them, praying for a turnaround, celebrating the presence of other churches, and greatly increasing their efforts on outward focus.





## MAIN POINT # 3

Scrappy churches commit to an outward deluge through sustained, seasonal, and special focus. All Three!