REBELS

Week 1: When God Raises Rebels

Big Idea: God raises up rebels to confront bondage, injustice, and systems that keep people trapped.

Main Scriptures: Exodus 3–5; Matthew 21:12-13

Five Major Points:

1. **Bondage Requires Rebellion**
    - **Scripture:** Exodus 2:23-25 & 3:7-10
    - **Story/Example:** Moses grew up in comfort but chose to identify with the suffering of his people. He killed an Egyptian who was abusing a Hebrew slave. This was the beginning of his rebellion against the system.
    - **Famous Quote:** "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." — Edmund Burke

2. **God Looks for People Willing to Rebel Against the Status Quo**
    - **Scripture:** Exodus 3:10-12
    - **Story/Example:** God didn't choose the most qualified leader — He chose the one willing to confront Pharaoh. Moses tried to get out of it, but God insisted.
    - **Famous Quote:** "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man." — George Bernard Shaw

3. **Righteous Rebellion Confronts Power Structures**
    - **Scripture:** Exodus 5:1-2
    - **Story/Example:** Moses didn't ask Pharaoh nicely. He boldly declared, "Let my people go!" This was open rebellion against the most powerful man in the world.
    - **Famous Quote:** "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." — Martin Luther King Jr.

4. **Jesus Was the Ultimate Rebel Against Religious Oppression**
    - **Scripture:** Matthew 21:12-13

- **Story/Example:** Jesus flipped tables in the temple and drove out the money changers. He refused to tolerate systems that exploited people in the name of God.
- **Famous Quote:** “The duty of a true patriot is to protect his country from its government.” — Thomas Paine (adapted)

5. **You Were Made to Rebel Against What’s Wrong**
   - **Scripture:** Ephesians 5:11
   - **Story/Example:** Many students today feel pressure to stay quiet about sin, injustice, or toxic environments at school or home. God is looking for students who will stand up.
   - **Famous Quote:** “The world has always been changed by unreasonable people who refused to accept things the way they are.” — Unknown