

A former inner-city Philadelphia drug-dealing street thug transformed by the Gospel, **Dr. S. Todd Townsend, Sr.** is not only the Senior Pastor of the Resurrection Center in Wilmington, Delaware, where he has served for 19 years, he is a university educator, lecturer, sought-after conference speaker and cross-cultural and cross-denominational ministry consultant with multiple doctoral degrees. And as if that weren't enough, he is also a musician and songwriter. He and his wife, Dr. Cleo Townsend, have three children and four grandchildren. They enjoy fitness instruction, martial arts, travel and leisure motorcycling together.



CREDENTIALS

- 35 years of ministry experience
- Doctor of Education (Educational Leadership) - Wilmington University
- Doctorate of Philosophy (Couple and Family Therapy) - Drexel University
- Three Masters Degrees (Biblical Studies, Urban Ministry, Missional Theology)
- Has spoken at universities, conferences across U.S.
- Has led his congregation in the planting of multiple churches and church campuses.
- 10+ years of experience as an individual, couples and family therapist
- Experience as a radio and television host

EXPERTISE

- Urban ministry
- Men's ministry
- Church/pastoral leadership
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Couples and Community Counseling
- Cultural and Diversity Education
- Recovery, rehabilitation, breaking patterns of dysfunction, confronting destructive behavior

TODD SAYS ...

"We must make a decision ... and that decision is always the same. We have to get back up. This is non-negotiable."

POTENTIAL TOPICS

- Entitlement
- Victim mentality, blaming God
- Forgiveness / How holding onto resentment, anger (with individuals and groups) keeps you down
- Escaping/rising above family dysfunction
- Depression, including major depressive episodes, seasonal depression and even postpartum
- Domestic abuse
- Small victories and why they're critical
- The difference in 'rising out of' and 'escaping'
- Race reconciliation and the church; Get up, America
- 'If your brother offends...' Dealing with offense in a culture obsessed with it
- For those who insist on playing the victim, what's the proper perspective? What role, if any, does justice play in 'getting up'?
- How to encourage someone who has gotten up over and over and over again and just can't do it again?
- How do we get up after an unfathomable loss, such as having lost a child? Or a marriage? What about when, after too much loss or too much pain, we've lost our faith in Jesus?
- What does 'getting up' mean for someone struggling with addiction?
- How do we get back up, reach high, finish strong if someone we love continues to drag us down?
- 'Reaching high': How high should my expectations BE? Are my dreams realistic or am I just setting myself up for another disappointment? Goal setting and achieving

GETTING UP FROM BEING DOWN

STAND UP, REACH HIGH, FINISH STRONG

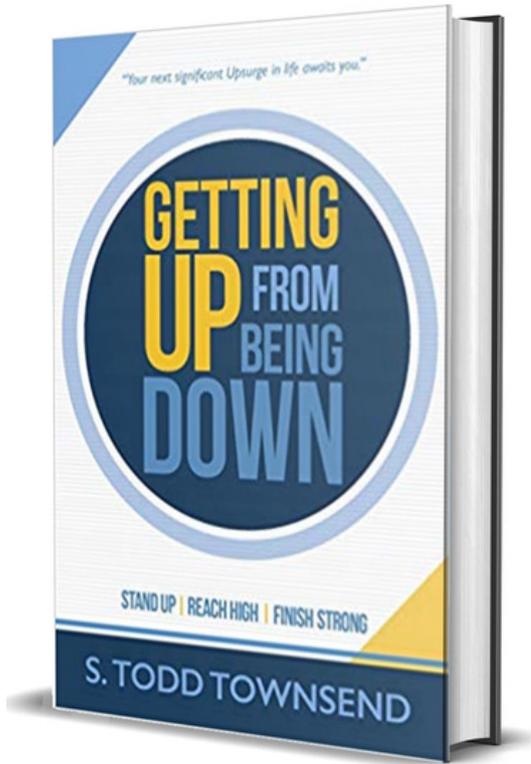
ABOUT THE BOOK

Ever been down in life? *Really* down? S. Todd Townsend knows *down*. Raised in inner-city Philadelphia, in a home with a loving mother and an abusive stepfather, he experienced the hard life, the cons and the law of the streets as a law-breaking, drug-dealing rabble rouser, stealing cars and breaking into people's homes. He was nothing more than a common thug. But when he heard the Gospel, heard that Christ's death and resurrection was for *him*, he surrendered control of his life to God, who transformed him. Nothing has been the same since. Now a pastor, an educator and a musician, Todd uses the story of his life to illustrate the necessity of getting back up and staying up, of holding on to the thread of hope, even in the dark chapters of life.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

People, despite having maybe more opportunities and resources at their disposal than at any time in human history are still experiencing depression, loneliness, sadness at epidemic levels. It's critical that we understand how to get up, reach high and strive towards the finish line -- over and over again. Life will not stop knocking us down.

- Divorce, though the numbers are leveling off or even declining, is still far too high and devastating families.
- Young people are hurting themselves because they don't know how to deal with pain, rejection, failure, pressure. [The prevalence of adults with a major depressive episode is highest among those between 18 and 25.](#)
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in the U.S. for people between the ages of 10-34. 47,000 people commit suicide in the U.S. every year.
- We're all dealing with pain or care about someone who just can't seem to rebound from a difficult time. Encouraging those we love is critical.
- [Depression is at an all-time high.](#) In fact, 17.3 million adults in the United States—equaling 7.1 percent of all adults in the country—have experienced a major depressive episode in the past year.
- Millions today pursue to reconcile their pain or position through social justice, activism or violence ... or they numb themselves with drugs, alcohol or sex. According to the American Addiction Center, 5.1 million young adults age 18 to 25 battled a substance use disorder in 2017, which equates to 14.8% of this population and about 1 in 7 people.
- A culture of entitlement, victimhood, blame and resentment has enveloped our nation. Millions are simply waiting to be rescued by someone else.



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AUDIENCE?

- People who are hurting, those that love them
- Pastors, youth pastors, Christian counselors
- Those struggling with loss, addiction, depression
- People who feel as if the deck is stacked against them or unjustly treated
- Anyone suffering from a public failure, humiliation, lack of self-esteem



- Todd is widely available, Monday - Saturday.
- NOT available on Sundays
- Todd is on Eastern Standard Time, in Delaware.
- Todd is available via phone or Skype.
- Todd is available to travel.



WHEN, HOW IS TODD AVAILABLE?

For more information or to book Todd Townsend, contact:

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