

THE WEEKLY – THE SABBATH PRINCIPLE

SABBATH

What was your experience of the “Sabbath” (Sundays) growing up? Share a memory.

Look to the Book:

Read Mark 6:7-12
What is happening here?

Read Mark 6:30-32
After the disciples an intense exciting time of ministry what does Jesus do?

The Crowds follow and Jesus feeds 5000 then what does he do?
(Mark 6:45-46).

Are these “Sabbath” rests short or long?

THE TEMPLE CLEANSINGS

Matthew 20:30-21:45
Mark 10:46-12:12
Luke 19:41-20:20

John 2:11-23

The Pharisees: not so bad... but
Matthew 23:1-3

Are you a Pharisee?

The Simple Christian –
Psalm 131:1-2 Lord, my heart is not proud; my eyes are not haughty.
I don't concern myself with matters too great or awesome for me.
But I have stilled and quieted myself, just as a small child is quiet with its
mother.
Yes, like a small child is my soul within me. NLT
Romans 12; Philippians 2:1-16; 1Tim 1:1-8

THE ULTIMATE SMACKDOWN – The Parable of the Vineyard
Matthew 21:33-46

The Vineyard Imagery
Israel as the Vine
Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80
Jeremiah 2:21
Hosea 10:1
Zechariah 8:11-12

Isaiah 24:7 “The new wine dries up and the vine withers; all the merrymakers groan.”

Jeremiah 8:13 “I will take away their harvest, declares the LORD. There will be no grapes on the vine. There will be no figs on the tree, and their leaves will wither. What I have given them will be taken from them.”

Joel 1:12 “The vine is dried up and the fig tree is withered; the pomegranate, the palm and the apple tree— all the trees of the field— are dried up. Surely the joy of mankind is withered away.”

Malachi 4:3-4 “He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken.”

Zechariah 3:10 “In that day each of you will invite his neighbor to sit under his vine and fig tree,’ declares the LORD Almighty.”

Jesus - The True Vine

John 15:1-14

LIVING ROOMS - PART 8 : SCANDALOUS JESUS:
SHOWDOWN AT THE TEMPLE

SETTLING IN: (15 minutes)

Round the circle:

Workshops at Church Muskoka Style are in many ways like the Living Room Small groups only they focus on certain things (TEAM /HABITS / SHAPE / FOCUS).
If you have attended one share what you appreciated about them.
Did they challenge you? How did they help you grow spiritually?

LOOK TO THE BOOK: (60 minutes)

(Part 1 – 20 minutes)

How is the modern church/Christian like the Pharisees who were not getting it right?
people that will better represent Jesus?

How do we allow for freedom and mercy and love and yet maintain the high standard that Jesus calls us to?

(Part 2 – 40 minutes - Read Matthew 23:1-33)

What can we learn from the “Woe to you Pharisee” teachings of Jesus?
Work down through each “WOE” and try and apply it to today's church or to yourself.

Are outward behaviours more important than inner thoughts and attitudes?

Do our inner thoughts and attitudes determine our outer actions? How hard do you battle your inner thoughts and feelings? What are some things we can do to help us in this battle?

GOING HOME (15 minutes)

Paul was a great follower of the Way what can we learn from his words in Philippians 3:8-17 in regard to the attitude we should maintain (vv12-15).

We all are on a journey of spiritual growth and workshops can help you with some basics.... not rituals but spiritual disciplines that have been proven to help one grow.

If you were going to attend a workshop one which one would it be?
Are you planning on attending one?
Have you signed up? Let the facilitator know.

Consider planning a potluck dinner next week and talk about ways that your group could work together to reach people in “non-phariseetical” ways.