

**Sermon Outline - Sun, Oct 16, 2022 – We Are Called to Jubilee - God’s Kin(g)dom Way**  
**Scriptures- Acts 2:14-21**

**Overview -**

As we celebrate New Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we are discerning where God is calling us. This month we are looking at the principles of Jubilee. We started the month with some key questions that we are holding as a congregation – what communities should we connect with more deeply, what justice issues should we focus on? Now we are looking to the biblical structure of Jubilee to help us discern. Last week we were reminded that Jubilee starts with the idea of belonging – to God, to each other and extending belonging to those on the margins.

**Telling the Story of Jubilee**

- Reminder of the Jubilee structure – Every 7 years Sabbath, 7 cycles, 50<sup>th</sup> Yr = Jubilee
- 1. Jubilee Principles –
  - a. REST - Stop doing and trying to control. Slow down to be with me & each other
  - b. RELY – If you obey, I got you. Trust me and recognize that I am in control
  - c. RESET - Assumes things will go wrong but allows for reset/second chance. This allows individuals to make mistakes without creating institutionalized inequities.
  - d. RELEASE - Freedom for those in bondage but also those with extra have to let go
  - e. RESTORE – God brings the Bringing community back into right relationship
  - f. REJOICE – Celebrate God, The Earth, Community, Abundance, Justice

**Key Points – RESET**

1. **Things will go wrong** – Unlike us, God isn’t surprised. There are a bunch of mere humans living in the world (you know people like us.) Individuals will make bad decisions and our human tendencies will lead to situations of suffering and injustice even without intention. (Fear, selfishness, low self-esteem, anxiety.....)
2. **A reflection practice is a must** –
  - a. Creating space to ask those key questions (SABBATH!!!)
  - b. Having people who will keep it real with you
  - c. Making space for forgiveness of self and others (not doing this can have stuck in a loop where you can’t move forward)
3. **Plan for consistent course corrections and resets** – Rather than “staying the course” in a janky situation, we have to be willing to change. If we embrace reflection and build change points into our lives it makes it easier to break through our tendency to resist change. (Thanksgiving, Advent, New Year’s, Lent, Pentecost, My Birthday, etc.)

**Broader Reflection Questions**

- What is your relationship to change? Do you embrace it, resist it or reject it?
- What is your practice of reflection and who are the people you trust to tell you the truth about yourself? Who do you turn to for the truth about our society?
- Thinking through your year, when do you build in reset moments? What could our community do to support you in building this practice?