

Sermon Outline - Sun, Jul 26, 2020 - Jubilee – RESET
(Leviticus 25:1-12; Isaiah 43:16-19)

Review – 4th week of studying Jubilee /Sabbath year. Every 7 years God say Israel should take a Sabbath year and every 50 years will be the Year of Jubilee. They never practiced it in part because they never fully embraced the practices that underly Jubilee – so far, we’ve looked at the practice of REST – taking Sabbath and the imperative to SLOW down, last week we talked about relying on God. Today we wrestle with the practice of resetting.

****Exegesis****

* Every 7 years in Sabbath and in a big way every 50 year the people reset (letting the land chill, returning to their families, giving the allotments of land back to the tribes, setting slaves free.

Taking it back to God’s perfect plan

* In doing this, institutions like slavery didn’t get tied to families or groups, land was given years 7,14,21,28,35,42 49 and 50 to do its thing and I imagine that families that had been separated had some form or reconciliation.

* Resetting was about moving from the ways they devised to God’s perfect plan.

****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 must 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.)

Individuals and societies don’t usually like change. We will even accept oppressive systems because “that’s the way things have always been.” Sometimes we demand change of others but don’t do it enough in ourselves. Revolution means to turn or to change. If we want the world to change, how well are we embracing resetting as a personal and communal practice.

****Core Questions** –**

1. What is your relationship to change? Do you embrace it, resist it or reject it?

2. 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?

3. Thinking through your year, when do you build in reset moments? What could our community do to support you in building this practice?