

A photograph of three women sitting around a table in a meeting. They are looking at laptops and talking. The text 'JESUS AND THE WORKPLACE' is overlaid on the image.

JESUS AND THE WORKPLACE

Connect Group Discussions for Sunday May 27th 2018

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LET'S TALK

What is your favourite way to relax and unwind?

GO TO THE WORD

Exodus 20:8–11

What does Sabbath mean to you? Is this something that you have practiced in your life? Why or why not?

Reflect on the rhythm of creation in Genesis 1. How do we see this same pattern repeated in Eph 2.8-10?

Reflect on these two descriptions of Sabbath. What could this look like in your life?

‘Sabbath is a day to stop our work and watch His work in creation.’

‘Sabbath is a day not to initiate but to respond.’

Deuteronomy 5:12–15

Sabbath gives us Freedom. Where are you in your perspective of work? Is your work closely linked to your identity? How might practicing Sabbath give you greater freedom?

How can legalism or rule keeping rob us of the joy of Sabbath?

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Romans. 13:11

Discuss this quote:

“Time management! The notion is preposterous. Worse than that, it is presumptuous. Who could presume to manage kairos? What we really do with all this time-management technique is to find ways to do more things within the time we have been given; more people to see, more projects to work on, more meetings to attend. This is why we feel spent and still empty when we have done all the managing. We assume we need help to manage time because we are too busy. The deeper issue is that we are too busy because we have lost a sense of the meaning of time. The Bible calls us to first live by kairos and let it dictate to chronos, what we will do and how we will live. To discern kairos will mean to behave ‘decently as in the daytime’, a phrase that carries the idea of elegance and grace. To really know time is to live gracefully and elegantly as befits the season.”

WHAT NOW?

Will you repent? Successful Sabbath keeping is not a matter of mastering new techniques of time management. It is much more fundamental than that; it is a matter of repentance and conversion. It means renouncing a way of life that has no space for God, and choosing by faith, a life that does. Certainly there are techniques that one can use to make Sabbath keeping easier, but until this basic repentance and conversion happen, the techniques are of no use. The real issue is, if you and I are too busy to stop working one day a week, then we are too busy! Our problem is sin, not lack of time. And we need to cry out for God’s mercy.

Reflect and Do something! What step will you take to implement Sabbath into your life? Share with your group and hold each other accountable.

PRAY

Ask the Lord for forgiveness and repent of your sin in this area of your life.

Ask the Holy Spirit to give you all you need to practice Sabbath in your life. To give you strength where you feel weak and to transform your heart and your mind according to His ways.

To view Table Talk or listen to the sermon and download discussion questions go to

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