

Making Room for God

Summary:

In this sermon, our lead minister, Bruce, addresses the typical response to "How are you?" with "I'm busy," highlighting the perceived status that busyness can bring. Despite our packed schedules, we often wish for more hours in the day to accomplish more, especially for God. However, the sermon challenges this notion by suggesting that what we truly need is not more time but rather to prioritize God in our lives. Using the story of Jesus at the temple from Luke 2:41-52, the speaker illustrates how, even at a young age, Jesus understood the importance of prioritizing time with His Father. The sermon concludes with a call to reorder our lives to make room for God personally and publicly through daily time with God and consistent church attendance.

Intro Prayer:

Heavenly Father, as we gather today to reflect on Your word and the message we've heard, we ask for open hearts and minds. Help us to truly understand the importance of making room for You in our busy lives. May this time lead us closer to You and inspire us to prioritize our relationship with You above all else. Guide our conversation and let Your Holy Spirit work within us so that we may grasp the lessons You have for us today. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Ice Breaker:

What's one activity you enjoy that helps you unwind after a busy day?

Key Verses:

- Luke 2:49 (NIV): "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" - John 10:10 (NIV): "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Questions:

1. How do you usually respond when someone asks you, "How are you?" and why?
2. What does "busy" mean to you, and how does it affect your daily life?
3. Reflecting on the story of Jesus in the temple, what does it tell us about His priorities at a young age?
4. How can we follow Jesus' example of prioritizing time with God amidst our busy schedules?
5. What practical ways can you make room for God in your personal life?
6. Why is it important to prioritize public worship and community with other believers?
7. How can the church support its members in their efforts to make room for God?
8. Share a time when prioritizing God made a noticeable difference in your life.

Life Application:

This week, challenge yourself to set aside a specific time each day for personal devotion to God. Whether it's reading scripture, prayer, or journaling, make this your "big rock" and see how it impacts the rest of your day and week.

Key Takeaways:

Busyness Is Not a Badge of Honor

Busyness often masquerades as a symbol of importance, but it can distract us from what truly matters. Prioritizing God over our packed schedules is essential for living a full and meaningful life. By recognizing the trap of busyness, we can begin to make intentional choices that align with God's purpose for us.

Jesus Prioritized His Father

Even as a child, Jesus demonstrated the importance of being in His Father's house. His example teaches us that our relationship with God should take precedence no matter our age or stage in life. We align ourselves with Jesus' mission and purpose by making room for God first.

Making Room for Personal and Public Worship

To live a life that is truly full, we must commit to both personal and public worship. Individual time with God nourishes our souls while gathering with fellow believers strengthens our faith community. Both aspects are critical for a balanced and spiritually healthy life.