

Sermon Study Guide – October 26, 2025

Greetings!

We're continuing our series about the church. In the past weeks I've proposed a definition of the church based on taking the whole of the Bible into consideration: The Church is

- The people of God (who are we?)
- On the mission of God (what are we doing?)
- Becoming the image of God in Christ (where are we going?)
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit (how do we do it?)

This week we're going to focus again on the mission and the gospel but from a slightly different perspective. Jesus began his ministry proclaiming that he was bringing the rest of God to those the world has oppressed. The mission of Jesus and of his followers is to *give rest* to the world.

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Church is the Mission Giving Rest

OT: Deuteronomy 5:12 Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. **13** Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **14** but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. **15** You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

NT: Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. **17** And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. **21** And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Outline

Introduction: A New Confession?

Definition

Foundation 1: God's Rest is his Reign

Foundation 2: Jesus Brings God's Reign and Rest

Foundation 3: Rest is given, not taken. Rest is grace.

Implication (So what?): The Church's mission is to bring and give rest.

Application (Now What?): Your call is to give rest to the world of Yakima. Perhaps you need rest yourself.... The call of the church is to give rest to one another.

Study Questions

Foundations: What?

1. How does rest demonstrate sovereignty (authority/rulership)?
2. How do you see Jesus' ministry as giving rest?
3. What's the difference between giving and taking rest?

Implications: So What?

4. What would a church focused on giving rest look like? What kind of things would we do? How would we give rest to those in the church (discipleship) and how would we give rest to those outside of the church (mission)?

Applications: Now What?

5. Do you need rest? In what ways?
6. To whom could you give rest? How?

Prayer

Consider praying how God might be calling you to his rest. What areas of your life are ruled by the gospel of work harder and get ahead? Or perhaps your life is controlled by others, consider praying that God would proclaim the good news to set at liberty the oppressed, through his people. And let us all pray that Grace of Christ would be a people known for bringing the rest of God's reign.