

Summary

Pastor Sam shares insights from his visit to Israel with the Motts family, who serve at King of Kings Church. He was struck by their excitement and preparation for the Sabbath, describing it as the 'best time of the week.' This led him to challenge the congregation about whether they approach church with the same anticipation and intentionality. The sermon emphasizes that having a great Sunday service isn't dependent on external factors like weather, music, or preaching quality, but rather on our spiritual preparation and heart attitude. Pastor Sam calls believers to be intentional in preparing for worship through prayer, Bible study, and proper rest. He stresses that worship begins with an attitude of the heart, not when music starts, and encourages active participation rather than passive attendance. The message concludes with a challenge to 'invest and invite' - building relationships with others and inviting them to experience Jesus through church attendance.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for bringing us together today as Your family. As we gather to study Your Word and learn from this message about preparation and intentionality, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to be receptive to Your Spirit's leading and show us how we can better prepare ourselves to worship You and serve others. Give us teachable hearts and help us to apply what we learn to our daily lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one thing you do to prepare for something important in your life, like a vacation, special dinner, or big event?

Key Verses

- Ecclesiastes 5:1-2
- Proverbs 11:30
- Philippians 2
- Hebrews 10:24-25

Questions

- How does the Motts family's excitement about Sabbath challenge your own attitude toward coming to church?
- What does it mean to 'guard your steps' as you go to the house of God, and how can we practically apply this?
- Pastor Sam mentioned that a good sermon requires both good delivery and good reception. What role do we play as listeners in receiving God's Word?
- What are some practical ways we can spiritually prepare for Sunday worship throughout the week?
- How can we shift from being passive participants to active worshippers during our church services?
- What does it mean to 'self-feed' spiritually, and why is this important for our growth?
- Pastor Sam said 'you can't live like hell on Saturday night and expect to experience heaven on Sunday morning.' How do our Saturday choices affect our Sunday worship?
- How can we better implement the 'invest and invite' principle in our daily relationships and interactions?

Life Application

This week, choose one person in your life who doesn't know Jesus and intentionally invest in that relationship. Look for opportunities to show God's love through your actions and words, and pray about inviting them to church with you. Also, commit to one specific way you will better prepare for next Sunday's worship service.

Key Takeaways

- Preparation for Sunday worship should be intentional and begin throughout the week, not just on Sunday morning
- A great Sunday service depends more on our heart attitude and spiritual preparation than on external circumstances
- Worship begins with an attitude of the heart, not when the music starts
- We must be 'self-feeding' spiritually through personal Bible study and prayer rather than relying only on Sunday services
- Our calling as believers is to 'invest and invite' - building relationships and bringing others to experience Jesus

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for this reminder about the importance of intentional preparation in our worship and spiritual lives. Help us to approach each Sunday with the same excitement and anticipation that the Motts family showed for their Sabbath celebration. Give us hearts that are eager to worship You and serve others. Show us specific people in our lives that we can invest in and invite to experience Your love. Help us to be doers of Your Word, not just hearers. Prepare our hearts even now for next Sunday's worship, and may our lives be a testimony of Your goodness to everyone around us. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.