

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Week of 11/16/2014 – Rest Part 3

Food and Fellowship:

Take time to enjoy some food and fellowship together, afterwards move the discussion to where you can all sit together.

Prayer:

Take a few minutes to share prayer requests individually. As each person shares, give opportunity for someone in the group to commit to pray for the requests that were just shared. After all of the prayer requests have been shared, take a few minutes to pray over the requests. One person should begin praying with a person designated to close after everyone who desires to pray out loud has prayed. One person can pray for all of the requests also...the goal is to feel comfortable sharing and have opportunity to open up with prayer.

Reflect:

Take a few minutes to reflect on the Sermon from the most recent Sunday.

- What sticks out in your mind?
- What principle/principles did you glean?
- How do you plan to apply some of the principles personally from the sermon? Please share.

Looking In:

Matthew 8:18-27

¹⁸ Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. ¹⁹ And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." ²⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ²¹ Another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ²² And Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."

²³ And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴ And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. ²⁵ And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." ²⁶ And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷ And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

Discussion Questions:

1. Jesus commanded that His disciples get into the boat to cross to the other side of the lake. At the same time, there were two others who showed interest in getting into the boat (a euphemism used to describe their desire to follow Jesus). How did Jesus respond to their interest in discipleship?

2. In view of how Jesus responded to the two men, and in view that following Jesus is risky and requires total commitment, would you have gotten into the boat? What keeps you, or what has kept you, from following Christ in discipleship?

3. Describe some of the storms of your life (maybe you are in one now). How did you respond to the storm? What does it practically look like in your life when you trust Jesus even while in the storm? What does it look like when you don't trust Jesus in the storm?

4. Why do you believe Jesus was able to sleep/rest while in the midst of such a storm? What kept the disciples from resting?

5. How can you apply the example modeled by Christ? (ie. How can you find rest in the storm?) How does it impact your view of circumstances to know that Jesus is with you and He will never forsake you?

*Remember circumstances will lie to us – when in the midst of the storm keep your eyes on Christ.

Next Message: Rest in Him

Close:

Take a moment to close with prayer