



## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR OBSERVING THE LORD'S DAY

### 1. PLAN AHEAD

Sunday is coming. Mentally and physically prepare for the Lord's Day. Laying out clothes and needed items on the day before makes it easier to be ready for worship on the next day. Every member of the family should do his part. Purpose to honor the Lord above all on His day. Get to bed early. Those who stay up late on Saturday evenings and exhaust themselves with activity will find it harder to fully participate in and benefit from the Lord's Day observances. Thought and preparation can also be made for meals on the next day. [Idea: is there anyone we can be a blessing to and invite to eat with us?]

### 2. GUARD THE DAY

Whatever we esteem as important in our spiritual lives will be tested. A thousand things clamor for our attention. Countless "needful" things will attempt to sidetrack us. To give this day the priority it deserves, we must "fence it in" with our regard and actions. Ask yourself if there is anything that would intrude upon or hinder this day from being given over to the worship and service of the Lord: Is this truly necessary to be done now? Can it wait until another day? Is it more important than gathering with the Lord's people in corporate worship? Is this pointing me to the Lord and thoughts of the spiritual, or is it contrary to all that this day represents? Remember that our Lord told His people, "Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work..." [Ex. 20:9, 10] [Note: Some people must work on the Lord's Day because of the nature or restrictions of their employment. That is understood and is why a Gospel-centered church has various times for gathering so that its members will be able to "forsake not the assembling of ourselves together" [Heb. 10:25]. But, if at all possible, the Lord's people should seek to avoid working on His day.] Purpose to get everything done on the other six days.

Communicate to your family and friends the biblical priorities that you place on this day. Appeal to them to schedule family events on other days.

### 3. MAKE PREPARATIONS

Just as setting aside a portion of all our income shows obedience, stewardship, and self-control, so does the observance of the Lord's Day in regards to the stewardship of our time and priorities. Job 11:13-15 says, "If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hands to Him; if iniquity be

in thine hand, put it far away; then thou shalt be steadfast." What we get out of this day of worship largely depends upon how we plan ahead for it. Praying that the Lord would speak to our hearts and to our loved ones is one way to prepare for it. Searching our heart, repenting of sin, and making things right with family members and others will open the door for anticipated blessing. Remember the warning of Psalm 66:18, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."

Pray that the Lord would bless those who will be ministering the Word. Pray that the Gospel seed will be planted in the rich soil of ready hearts.

It is helpful to read ahead in the areas of Scripture where the Sunday school teacher and the pastor will be teaching.

Be on time. We are not late for those activities which we deem important: work, school, meetings. The Lord's service is royal business! We are meeting with the King and His chosen ones.

### 4. SERVE ON PURPOSE

Determine if at all possible to have a place of service and responsibility on the Lord's Day. Everyone can assist in some specific way, especially in prayer. Can I assist in a class, in the choir, or in setting up for a meeting? Can I ride a bus and help monitor the riders to Sunday school and worship? Can I assist people to and from their cars? Can I take part in the choir or orchestra, or in ushering? Can I vacuum or pick up items and set things in order? Do I bear a part of the work load of my church? All of us can have the mindset of being faithful, being in our place, and attempting to be a blessing to others through encouragement and exhortation.

Join heartily in the singing, examining the words and doctrine taught. Listen carefully to the words of the specials and follow along with the thoughts. Open your Bible to the text, following along carefully as the Scripture is read, and jot down notes. Expect a blessing. Intend to be a blessing.

Be willing to sacrifice a day of work for a trip rather than view the Lord's Day as a way to fit in more trips without any loss of time or money. Remember David's concern: "Neither will I offer...unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing" [II Samuel 24:24].

### 5. REMEMBER YOUR WITNESS

In the Sword and Trowel, [2005, No. 3], Dr. Peter Masters writes this:

"One of the effects of the Jewish sabbath was

its witness to the pagan world. Imagine how the nations surrounding Israel reacted on seeing them observe the sabbath. In an age when most people were farmers, they knew the difficulties of stopping all work on one day every week. They would no doubt say to themselves, 'How do those Jews manage?' All farm routines had to be most carefully organized around the day when everything stopped. Yet those pagan nations saw an entire culture organized around one day in seven to worship the one true God, and it was a powerful testimony. It is the same for us today in this present age when society at large has no sabbath. 'Who are these Christians,' people ask, 'who abstain from work and entertainments on Sunday so that they may worship? We see the churches open, and these people commemorating their

Creator and worshipping together.' The Lord's Day is partly designed for this very purpose, that the reality of our faith may be evident to all."

For those who are not able to assemble in person, great care should be exercised to still set the day apart, as unto the Lord. When watching or listening at home, the temptation can be to multitask, doing several things that vie for our attention all at once. The Lord specifically entrusted His ancient people to keep one day in seven "holy," that is, set apart from the rest. This should be our practiced intent wherever we are.

How vital the Lord's Day is for our soul's good. It is a gift from the Lord, designed *by Him* for *His* people.

Thank you for your help in getting out the glorious gospel. We could not do it without you.

Your servant,  
Chris Lamb

## THE BRINKMAN ADVENTURES – SATURDAYS AT 9 A.M.

*The Brinkman Adventures* is an exciting dramatized radio show that tells true, modern missionary stories through the eyes of the fictional Brinkman family. These powerful stories from the lives of real people come to life through the humorous escapades of the Brinkman family. These adventures are designed to strengthen your faith and provide lessons for life related to gospel missions. The idea for the program began in 2009 while Ian Bultman was praying and reading his Bible. Ian was impressed to create a children's radio show that would inspire future missionaries. This show would later be known as *The Brinkman Adventures*. Ian wrote the first three stories, and his children volunteered as voice actors along with additional voice actors from the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area. Over time, God sent other talented actors and producers to help with production. Soon after, radio stations in the US began broadcasting the series, and today these weekly programs are heard on stations across the globe. The *Brinkman Adventures* now includes eight seasons with over seventy episodes.

Beginning October 2, *The Brinkman Adventures* will premier a thirteen-episode series which will address issues such as the quest for freedom, a pandemic, and religious persecution. Each story will take you back to the political and religious persecution that occurred during the seventeenth century. Through the eyes of the Mayflower pilgrims, listeners will learn about their high value of Scripture, their horrific voyage across the Atlantic, and God's providence as they resettled in America. Children, as well as adults, will be reminded that they, too, are strangers and pilgrims who must keep their eyes fixed upon the God who cares about them, no matter their circumstances.

## REALITY CHECK – SATURDAYS AT 7:30 A.M. | NICK GUY, PRIVATE EYE – SATURDAYS AT 9:30 A.M.

*Reality Check* is a fun and entertaining show that, through our imagination, transports us back to biblical times. Nit Whitly, the main character, investigates people, objects, and biblical events through challenging interviews and helps the listener to discover reality as God declares it.

The underlying premise of *Nick Guy, Private Eye* is to remind believers (young and old) to make a defense of their faith to those who ask a reason for the hope within us. The comical and eccentric Nick Guy and his assistant, Dr. DeSoto, are a parody of the Sherlock Holmes/Dr. Watson pair as they bungle their way through criminal investigations and attempt to unravel the truth in each week's mystery. Those around him think Nick Guy is a brilliant detective who solves the mysterious crimes he investigates, but the audience knows that Nick Guy is incompetent and that DeSoto, his companion, is actually the one who solves the cases. Frank Ulle is the creator of the *Nick Guy, Private Eye* apologetics series as well as the short feature *Reality Check*. Frank is also the voice of Nit Whitly, Nick Guy, Dr. DeSoto and the Human Eel. He is assisted by the voice talent of almost a dozen volunteers. Frank is the director and owner of the Dominion Artists Studio and serves as the music director of Leroy Community Chapel in Leroy, Ohio. He and his wife, Debby, live in Painesville, Ohio.