

## Getting into Our Lives .....Group time - 15 minutes

1. Where have we added additional rules or customs that could create a barrier to the gospel? What would it look like to submit those to Christ?
2. What times do you find yourself striving to please God and missing out on the rest Christ provides? What needs to change?
3. What Sabbath principles could you start to apply for the purpose of growing in your dependence on and rest in God?

## Getting Out the Gospel .....Group time - 10 minutes

Keep practicing sharing your “Stories of Life Change” (Testimonies) and keep studying the simple gospel outline you put together from two weeks ago. This week, read through these verses that get at the heart of God’s love and message of salvation. Pick one, memorize it, and find a spot in your personal story to include it.

- *John 3:16*
- *Romans 3:23-24*
- *Romans 5:8*
- *Ephesians 2:4-5*
- *1 Timothy 1:15*
- *1 John 4:10*

## Getting into Prayer .....Group time - 10 minutes

**Reach:** Pray for an opportunity to share some of your story this week.

**Grow:** Pray that we would grow in our ability to submit our customs and preferences to Jesus’ authority and God’s priorities of mercy, restoration and life.

**Empower:** Pray for the opportunity to encourage other Christians in finding their rest in Jesus.

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## ***The Boss’ Boss*** ***Matthew 12:1-14***

Jesus is the ultimate and true \_\_\_\_\_ through which we can accurately see the world and learn how to appropriately live for Him.

When you prefer power instead of \_\_\_\_\_, you become a spiritual fraud and miss Jesus entirely.

Good habits and nice clothes are insufficient to make up for \_\_\_\_\_ ears and \_\_\_\_\_ hearts.

### **Sabbath Blessings for Today:**

- Living a life for the Lord, relishing the rest Jesus has bought for you
- Learning to trust God’s provision in all areas as you seek to provide for others
- Loosening our grip on our works/deeds
- Letting go of the burden of anxiety

### **Colossians 2:14-17**

*He erased the certificate of debt, with its obligations, that was against us and opposed to us, and has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; he triumphed over them in him. Therefore, don’t let anyone judge you in regard to food and drink or in the matter of a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of what was to come; the substance is Christ.*

### **Hebrews 4:9-11**

*Therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for God’s people. 10 For the person who has entered his rest has rested from his own works, just as God did from his. Let us then make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience.*

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***I never knew:***

***I need to change:***

***I should share:***

# GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

Week of October 6, 2018

## Getting Started .....Group time - 15 minutes

1. Share about your experience with a Homeowner's Association (HOA). What's their intended purpose? Why do they sometimes have a bad reputation?
2. What are some other areas (sports rule, workplace culture, laws, etc.) where something in practice gets away from its intended meaning?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

## Getting into God's Word .....Group time - 40 minutes

### Read Matthew 12:1-8

1. What catches your attention in this story?
2. What is the Sabbath? What was its intended purpose? **See also: Exodus 20:8-11; Deuteronomy 5:12-15**
3. What two examples does Jesus utilize to defend his disciples' actions? What do these prove? **See also: 1 Samuel 21:1-6; Numbers 28:9-10**

4. What is unique about Jesus' claim to be the "Lord of the Sabbath"? How does this relate to His claim in Matthew 11:28-30?

### BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever felt locked into a season of all work and no rest? How could a Sabbath be a blessing?

### Read Matthew 12:9-14

5. How do you think the Pharisees would have answered their own question?

6. What is the purpose of Jesus' comparison? If this man's problem wasn't life threatening why didn't Jesus wait until the next day to heal him?

7. Why do you think Jesus challenged the common view of the Sabbath?

### Read Hebrews 4:1-11

8. What is the ultimate fulfillment of the Sabbath rest? How does one enter into it?