

**Study Questions for the October 24, 2021 Sermon:  
“The Story of The Rest”  
Genesis 2:1-3**

1. The opening scripture was Isaiah 66: 22 & 23: *“As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me,” declares the Lord, “so will your name and descendants endure. From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me,” says the Lord.*
  - a. Are these verses prophesying that, in the time of the new heavens and new earth, there will still be new moon and Sabbath celebrations?
  - b. Based on these verses, what will be the primary activity of mankind?
  - c. Read Exodus 9:1. For what reason did God order the Pharaoh to free the Hebrews?
2. According to Genesis 2:2, God rested on the seventh day.
  - a. According to Pastor Paul, why did God rest?
  - b. If you have any other ideas about why God rested, share them.
3. According to Pastor Paul, why didn't God declare the seventh day “good”, as he did for the previous six days?
4. What are the spiritual implications of people having a day of rest?
5. If any of you were raised in a family that set apart Saturday or Sunday as a day of rest, share your experience.
6. When Jesus was criticized by religious leaders for allowing his disciples to pluck and eat grain (Matthew 2:23-28), he referred back to David allowing his troops to eat the showbread, which is reserved for the priests. (1 Samuel 21; 22:1-5).
  - a. What point was Jesus making?
  - b. Restate Matthew 2:28 in your own words.
7. Pastor Paul said that God designed spiritual things to point to Jesus. Jesus said the same in John 5:39. How does the Sabbath point to Jesus?

8. Luke 13:10-16, is one of several stories in the Bible of someone being healed of a physical disease by being freed of demonic control.
  - a. Have you ever considered the possibility that the underlying cause of your illness is demonic, rather than physical?
  - b. State why you believe or do not believe that modern-day faith healers are legitimate?
  - c. Have you ever personally experienced, or observed, a person healed by being freed from demonic control?
  
9. Hebrews 4:9&10 *There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from their works, just as God did from his.* In what sense:
  - a. Are God's children already enjoying a Sabbath-rest?
  - b. Will God's children enjoy a greater Sabbath-rest after Jesus returns?
  
10. The sermon "homework" was 1) Pray for the "rest" of your brothers and sisters in Christ. 2) Examine your schedule and determine if you have allotted adequate time for rest. If you either of these, share your experience.