

Lifegroup Discussion Guide

Sermon Title: **Rest vs Work.**

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Focus of today:

Rest is a spiritual principle, but rest is not inactivity. You and I were created for good works which God prepared for us so that we can walk in them.

WELCOME: Ice breaker: Have you ever been caught napping when you should have been awake?

WORSHIP: Do a praise and/or worship song as people shift their focus from each other to the Lord.

WORD: Leaders Note: If you weren't in the service, please make sure that you listen to the message online or get a CD to familiarize yourself with the heart of the message.

Ask some of the members to read:

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

- Paul writes and says that GRACE THROUGH FAITH is what saves us.
 - Grace is God's undeserved and unmerited favor.
 - You cannot earn it or deserve it.
 - Faith is our response to grace.
 - Faith and grace are power twins!
 - They operate together.
 - They bring balance to each other.
 - FAITH WITHOUT GRACE TURNS INTO RELIGIOUS WORKS.
 - GRACE WITHOUT FAITH TURNS INTO POWERLESS RELIGION.
- Paul goes on to explain the two NOT'S:
 1. Not of yourselves
 2. Not of works
- There are two kinds of works mentioned here.
- Those that one does in an effort to attain salvation.

- Those works we have been created for in Christ Jesus.

Question: When Jesus died and rose again from the cross – what happened to our sins, failures and shortcomings? How does that change your identity?

We looked at three principles of rest under grace:

#1 IN GOD'S KINGDOM WORK IS REST.

Question: Why do we say that when we do what God created for us to do, we are in rest?

Do you feel that you are currently doing what God created you do?

Why or why not?

#2 IN GOD'S KINGDOM GOOD WORKS BRINGS SUPERNATURAL RESULTS.

Read: Genesis 39:2–6 (NKJV)

- This is God's way: begin in rest, work out of His rest and continue in His rest and you will see supernatural results in your marriage, in your business and in your work place.

Question: Which part of this passage speaks most to you and why?

#3 IN GOD'S KINGDOM GOOD WORKS BRINGS SUPERNATURAL PROVISION

- When we rely on our works (as opposed to good works) we have to make things happen.
- But when we rely on His grace we just walk in what He has already prepared for us!

Acts 4:33–35 (NKJV)

³³And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. ³⁴Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold,

³⁵ and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

Questions:

What would be the result if great grace entered your life today?

Do you think there is any reason for great grace NOT coming upon your life right now?

WORKS:

- 1.) Let's pray for each other in areas where our hearts have become anxious.
- 2.) Sunday is Father's Day and our Harvest Sunday. Let's pray for every aspect of the service.
- 3.) Who are you bringing to the service?

