

THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM
Does it Really Matter?
Part 1 Why the Sabbath
Sermon 19.9.09
Wayne Krause

Small Group Study for Week of Sept 19-25

The Big Idea

The Sabbath was created by Christ, who called Himself the Lord of the Sabbath. The Sabbath was made for human beings to help direct them to God who is both our maker and Saviour. Keeping the Sabbath is a reminder that we serve the Creator and are to rest in Christ. It is also a sign that we allow Him to make us holy. In the last days there is a special message to the world that includes the need to worship the Creator.

Group Reads Genesis 2:1-3

Questions:

1. Remembering that the context for this passage is the first full day for human beings existing in a **sinless** world, what did:
 - A. God **resting** (mentioned twice) mean for Adam and Eve and what could it mean for us today?
 - B. The fact that God **blessed** a specific period of time mean for Adam and Eve and what could it mean for us today?
 - C. The fact that God made a day **holy**, mean for Adam and Eve and what could it mean for us today?
2. What else did you find relevant in this passage?

Group Reads Exodus 20:8-11

3. Discuss the similarities and differences between Genesis 2:1-3 and Exodus 20:8-11
4. What does the inclusion of animals and servants in the commandment on the Sabbath tell you about the Sabbath, human equality and the conservation of the environment?

Group Reads Deuteronomy 5:12-15

5. Discuss the added meaning for the Sabbath as salvation that is mentioned in this passage? Discuss the relationship between rest and salvation?

Group Reads Exodus 20:10 and Mark 2:27,28

6. Discuss the implications that the Sabbath was made for man (Mark 2:27) to be directed towards God (Exodus 20:10). What does that mean for us today? Does it help in working out what we could do on the Sabbath?

Group Reads Ezekiel 20:12-21

7. What does it mean that the Sabbath is a sign between God and us that He has made us holy?
8. How important does the Sabbath seem to be to God? To us?

9. The breaking of the Sabbath was one of the main reasons the Jewish people were carried off into the Babylonian captivity. What does that mean for us today?

10: Anything else from these verses?

Group Reads Revelation 14:6-7

11. Why does the call to worship God in the last days come with almost a direct quote from the Sabbath commandment?

12. How has this study impacted your understanding of the importance of the Sabbath?

13. What should we do about what we have learnt?