

Isaiah 56:1-8

Series – Rediscovering Sabbath: An Invitation to Counter-Cultural Practice

Message – Not Just for Ourselves

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Fifth Reformed Church

Jon Sherrill

### How We Should Live

- The ditch of \_\_\_\_\_
- The ditch of “\_\_\_\_\_ grace” (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)
- The narrow road between those ditches is the way we should live, \_\_\_\_\_ of our relationship with God because of what Jesus has done for us and \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.
- Isaiah 56:1 – Maintain justice and do what is right
- Isaiah 56:2
- We maintain justice and do what is right by \_\_\_\_\_ the Sabbath and \_\_\_\_\_ from anything we know to be wrong.
- This work of maintaining justice and doing what is right that begins with keeping the Sabbath is a work for God’s \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.

### Those Who Belong

- Isaiah 56:3-7
- Deuteronomy 23:1-2
- Before the exile, God’s people had become \_\_\_\_\_ instead of being in the world but not OF the world.
- After the exile, God’s people had become \_\_\_\_\_ instead of being IN the world but not of the world.

- Genesis 12:2-3
- Matthew 5:13-14
- The call is the same – to be God’s people \_\_\_\_\_ the world, inviting everyone everywhere to love and worship Jesus with us.
- Apparently, the \_\_\_\_\_ step in joining God in his work in the world is to stop working, to rest, to worship, to keep sabbath.

### Still Others

- Isaiah 56:8
- Acts 10

“I find it fascinating that the Sabbath is the only ‘spiritual discipline’ that makes it into the Ten Commandments. Not church or Bible reading, not even prayer. Sabbath is the anchor discipline of the people of God” (John Mark Comer, The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry, 163).

- When we \_\_\_\_\_ the anchor discipline of sabbath, our mission is impacted negatively, or worse, hijacked altogether.

### Reflection Questions

1. Where and how has obeying Jesus been costly to you?
2. Think about the power you have in life (i.e. economic, social, political, financial). Where and have you used that power for others and toward God’s vision of *shalom*?
3. The text points to keeping sabbath as the first step in doing what God asks of us. Does that change your perspective on sabbath? If so, how?
4. God’s people tend to “teeter-totter” between isolating themselves from the world and becoming enamored with the ways of the world. Where would you say Fifth church is at right now? Why do you say that? And where are you at right now?
5. How is God getting your attention?
6. What might God be saying to you?
7. What are you going to do about it?