



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Interactive Sunday School Outline

TOPIC: Jubilee: Planning for Rest

TEXT: Leviticus 25:8-28

Instructions - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction - It was like somebody pulled the plug or let all the air out of the room; everyone was exhausted. So, I finished the meeting early and encouraged them all to go home and spend time with their families. While this might have been unexpected and unorthodox, there are ample examples in Scripture that show us that God is not only concerned with work and service but also with our rest and refreshment.

Rest and refreshment cost, though. First, there's the taking time off work. Then there is the need for money to cover living or travel expenses while you take time off to rest. For this reason, those with more financial resources are able to take the more extensive breaks while those with less financial resources are much more limited in their access to refreshment. Through Moses, God gave several means of rest and refreshment for everyone in the nation of Israel, rich and poor. The two most extensive times of rest he provided were the Sabbath year and the Year of Jubilee. Read Leviticus 25:8-28.

Discussion Questions:

1. Scripture clearly reveals, though, that God wants all of us to experience regular times of rest and refreshment. What do you do to seek rest and refreshment when you're extremely tired?
2. The Jubilee year is summarized in verses 8 -13. What was to happen in that year?
3. What might be a contemporary / today's version of the Year of Jubilee?
4. The Jubilee, following a Sabbath year, provided for everyone to have a two-year

break from work. How would your life be different if you were given two years without the necessity of working?

5. The Jubilee was not meant to be just a vacation, that is, just a break from work. It was meant to be holy, a time set apart to honour the Lord (v. 12). How might this difference affect the experience of the Jubilee?
6. The Jubilee raised serious economic issues-like how people were to live if they weren't working. What provision did God make for this (vv. 18-22)?
7. Moses is not mentioned in these verses, but God is speaking to him here, giving him these instructions to pass on to the people regarding this amazing holy season and entrusting him with the task of helping them embrace this new way of life. How do you think the Jubilee year would have shaped Moses' leadership?
8. The Jubilee was also the "proclamation of liberty throughout the land" (v. 10). What sacrifices and benefits did this involve?
9. The liberty proclaimed included the forgiveness of all financial debts. How would your life be different if all your debts were wiped out?
10. During the Jubilee year, even family homesteads that were sold due to financial difficulty were to be returned to the original owners (v. 10). What did God have to say to those who had bought up the homesteads of others but did not want to release them?
11. Executing the Jubilee would have been a major leadership challenge. Why is it that the practice of grace and justice often creates a battle?
12. What qualities or help would Moses have needed to effectively lead people to practice the Jubilee as God instructed?
13. How might God's instructions for and provision of a Jubilee year, and the actual practice of it, have shaped Israel's -understanding of God?