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Y** TRUTH: GOD'S PEOPLE ARE CALLED TO GATHER TOGETHER REGULARLY TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD IN ORDER TO BE EQUIPPED TO MINISTER TO OTHERS.

Verse for the week:

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

1. Have you ever witnessed on TV or in a movie, or have you ever personally attended an awkward dinner? Explain your experience.
2. Read Luke 14:1-6. Explain what happens during this dinner that make things awkward between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders.
3. Give other examples in Luke of awkward dinners Jesus shares with religious leaders? Read Luke 7:36-50, 11:37-54.

For Kids:

What is the Sabbath? Why was it a blessing and not a burden? What did Jesus do on the Sabbath? Read Luke 7:36-50, 11:37-54, 13:10-17, and 14:1-6. What should we do for others when we meet together as a church?

Prayer: Father instruct us from your Word on how we are to keep the Lord's Day your way. May we be more focused on your Word than ourselves and more on the needs of others.

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1. Read Exodus 16. The observance of the Sabbath set God's people apart from the rest of the surrounding nations. Why? What were God's people communicating in their observance of the Sabbath?
2. Why did the Jewish religious leaders add requirements to God's commandments?
3. Why did these additional requirements cause the Jewish religious leaders problems spiritually?

For Kids:

We learned on Sunday that the Jewish religious leaders added laws to God's law which made life harder for people. Explain why this was wrong?

Prayer: Father give us a heart for your Word and compassion for those in need. May we get established in truth so that we are equipped to minister to others.

Answers: 1) Those from the surrounding nations failed to see their need for God's provisions and often praised the works of their own hands. God's people were called by him to take a day to cease from their labor, rest, and enjoy the blessings God provided. They were to remember that while they were going out each day and exerting themselves to provide for their family, their daily provisions were ultimately from God. 2) To protect them from making the same mistakes their fathers before them made. They were fearful of falling into the same sins and being faced with more of God's judgment. 3) Because of these stricter restrictions, many practices lost their original meaning. Many began to look to and trust in these outward practices to make them inwardly clean and spiritually fit when the purpose of these practices were to show them they were not.

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1. Read Hebrews 10:25. List some reasons why corporate worship on the Lord's Day is special and should not be neglected by God's people?
2. Reread Luke 14:1-6. Why would Jesus healing this man of dropsy upset the religious leaders? What should have been their response? What does this reveal about their hearts?
3. Read Luke 14:5. Explain Jesus' words here. Why should it have made sense to the religious leaders to do good on the Sabbath?
4. Read Luke 14:1-4. When Jesus asks them whether it is lawful to heal on the Sabbath, what source of authority is he pointing them to? What was their authority? What should have been their authority?

For Kids:

If a member of our church comes to church on Sunday with a need, how should God's people respond? Why? How would Jesus respond? Why? What are ways you can help someone in need in the church?

Prayer: Father we pray we would not take our corporate time of worship for granted, but would make the commitment to gather with your people regularly to focus on and respond to you in the study of your Word and in the praise of your holy name.

Answers: 3) If the Sabbath is meant to be a blessing for the people of God, then it must be good to bless God's people on the Sabbath.

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1. Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. What do some churches elevate above the Word? Why must the preaching and teaching of the Word be supreme in Christ's church?
2. Read Luke 14:3-6. Where is Jesus' focus in this story? Where is the focus of the Jewish religious leaders? See point number 2 in the outline.
3. Is your primary reason for coming to church to get established in truth from God's Word in order to be an improved worshipper of God and a faithful witness to others? Are your eyes fixed on those in need? If not, spend time this week praying that God would make that your focus each and every Sunday. Pray he would grow you in godliness through the preaching and teaching of his Word and equip you to be a strong witness for his Gospel and a servant to those in need.

For Kids:

Why is it important to come to church each and every week? What is the most important thing we do at church? Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Why is this the most important thing?

Prayer: Father grow your people at Fellowship through the preaching and teaching of your Word so they would be strong witnesses for your Gospel and servants for your cause and your glory.

Answers: 2) While this man is in need and suffering, the religious leaders focus was not on him but on keeping their religious observances. While they should have been more concerned with the needs of others, their focus was on keeping tradition and not violating their man-made rules. 3) Because nothing in life is to take up residence in the spot in your heart and life reserved for God alone.

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1. Explain how the Sabbath was rooted in God's mercy. Why should this perspective lead one to respond like Jesus to those in need?
2. Is the Lord's Day (Sunday) a day rooted in mercy? What is significant about that day?
3. Take time this week to write down ways you can show mercy to others on the Lord's Day. Pray for open doors and faithfully participate in those opportunities.

For Kids:

Are you a person who loves God and his word and loves and cares for others? Have you experienced the love God has shown in sending his Son? You can experience this great love today by turning from your sin and believing on the Lord Jesus. Would you forsake your sin and place your faith and trust in Christ today?

Prayer: Father we pray you would give eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to understand this message. We pray they would respond with repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ.

Answers: 1) The Sabbath was given by God to a nation of slaves who had been delivered from bondage in Egypt. It was an act of mercy by God to his people. Showing mercy on a day rooted in mercy is right. Scripture is clear that we have been blessed to be a blessing. Those whom God loves are to love others. 2) On that day, Jesus was raised from death to life. His resurrection assures us that he is who he said he is and accomplished what he said he would accomplish. Because Jesus lives, we live also. His resurrection guarantees our future resurrection.

**JESUS' JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM:
ANOTHER AWKWARD DINNER CONVERSATION
Luke 14:1-6**

Two Issues with the Pharisees,

THEY PUT MORE VALUE ON THEIR MAN-MADE _____ THAN THE GOD-GIVEN _____.

THEY CARED MORE ABOUT _____ AND THEIR _____ THAN THE DEEP-SEATED _____ OF _____.