

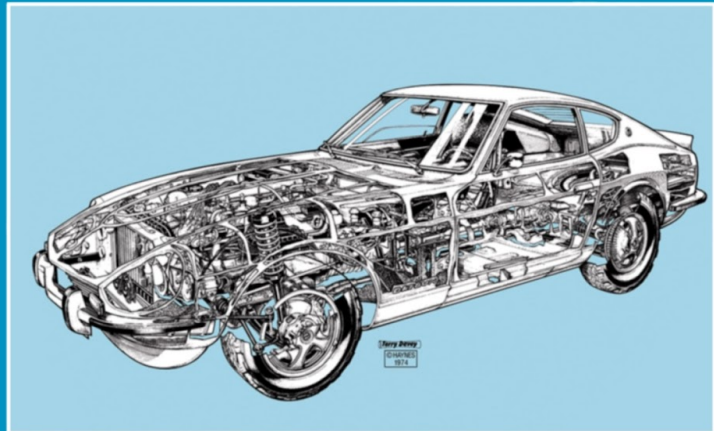
THE WAY IT WORKS

10C, 26V & 20EX



Ultimate Life Guide/Manual

20:02 thru 20:17 Commandments
1 - 10, no other, no idols, not in vain, 6-day & 1, honor, not kill,
loyal, not steal, not lie, not covet



The Way it Works — Sabbath

Sermon Discussion Questions – September 17, 2023

Scripture Passages:

Romans 3:20 (NLT) ²⁰ For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

Romans 3:22 (NLT) ²² We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

Romans 3:23–25 (NLT) ²³ For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. ²⁴ Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. ²⁵ For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.

Exodus 20:8–10 (NLT) ⁸ “Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ You have six days each week for your ordinary work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God.

Matthew 12:11–13 (NLT) ¹¹ And he answered, “If you had a sheep that fell into a well on the Sabbath, wouldn’t you work to pull it out? Of course, you would. ¹² And how much more valuable is a person than a sheep? Yes, the law permits a person to do good on the Sabbath.” ¹³ Then he said to the man, “Hold out your hand.” So the man held out his hand, and it was restored, just like the other one!

Philippians 4:19 (NLT) ¹⁹ And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Warm Up:

This week, Pastor Tom talked about rest and Sabbath. What is restful to you? What do you do when you need to rest?

Discussion:

1. Read Romans 3:22. What does it mean to place your faith in Jesus? What does it mean to be right with God? Why is this good news?
2. One of Pastor Tom's points was "Believers do not keep the law to gain God's acceptance or approval. We keep God's law as our grateful response to his love." What does this mean to you? Do you find yourself keeping the law for God's acceptance/approval or as a response to His love? Why do you think that is?
3. Excerpt from Pastor Tom:
One of the most powerful principles I learned during my Freshman year of college was in a class designed to help students become oriented to college life. The principle was simply, Be here now. Today I might say, be present.
Pastor Tom then asked the question "When was the last time you talked with anyone who made you feel as if you were the most important thing going on at that moment?"
How would you answer this question? When was the last time you made someone feel as if they were the most important thing going on at that moment? Why do you think this is important?
4. Pastor Tom gave us the condition we all have developed "Chronic Restlessness." How do you see this in your own life? Why do you think we suffer from this? What can we do to stop this?
5. Read Exodus 20:8-10. Where do we see God keeping the Sabbath? (Read Genesis 2:2-3 if needed) Why is keeping the Sabbath important? Why do you think it is important to God?
6. Excerpt from Pastor Tom:
The Sabbath is a point in the journey when we slow down enough so that the Lord can look into our lives and see how we are doing and how we are not doing. He sees the part of us that needs to be touched by him and where my spiritual shoes are wearing thin. But when I practice the Sabbath, not only does God see into my heart, but I catch a glimpse of his heart. I see his love for me and others. I see his compassion. I see his strength. If I catch his heart, it impacts my marriage, my parenting, my pastoring, my leading, and my sense of self.
What does Sabbath look like for you? What does it mean for you? How do you feel? If you don't celebrate the Sabbath, why? What do you think would change if you did?

Next Steps:

Pastor Tom ended this week with this:

He sees relationships and how they are impacting your soul. He puts his hand on your back and says, I can help with this. I can provide what you need here. You are becoming cynical toward people, your heart is becoming bitter, I can help with that. Let me provide the love and patience you will need for this week. Practice the Sabbath. Allow your soul to catch up with your body.

What can you do this week to intentionally make Sabbath a priority? What can you do to allow your soul to catch up to your body?