

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Road Map

Pastor Roger W. Huffman

Matthew 11:25-30

July 7 & 8, 2018

Daily experience how living with Jesus lightens life's burdens.

- Who likes to be wearied by life's burdens or troubles?
 - ♦ Worn out mom, person working 3 jobs, those too old for work, those who'd rather play than work...
 - ♦ Universally try to avoid - minimize - overcome - eliminate
- *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*
- You'd think this would get everyone's attention - a universal appeal
 - ♦ until they find out Jesus doesn't offer a *trouble-free option*. No interest!
- Jesus daily invites us to discover the riches of his invitation:
Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Daily experience how living with Jesus lightens life's burdens.

- ❖ Jesus offers rest to those who live with him.
 - **Take my yoke upon you and learn from me**
 - ♦ *Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. ...what fellowship can light have with darkness?* 2 Cor. 6:14
 - *yoke* - connect intimately - walk with - live with Jesus.
 - *Learn from the one who knows the Father and reveals him to us.*
 - ♦ *know - really know*: know by experience, close relationship with
 - ♦ Our lack of rest comes from not knowing our Creator - not living and walking with him.
 - ♦ Separated from God: out of fellowship with him, in fellowship with sin
 - ♦ Come to Jesus to address the root of our weariness: living apart from sin
 - Rest offered & found: living with Jesus - living with God
- ❖ Learn how Jesus lightens our burdens.
 - We grow weary trying to be in charge - to be our own god.
 - ♦ We're not qualified. He is. He can. He will be.
 - ♦ *I will be their God* - protect, rescue, provide for his own (relationship)
 - He relieves us of the burden of our guilt and fears.
 - ♦ Greg Koukl - addressed students:
 - *I know something that is true of everyone of you. You deal with guilt.*
 - How did he know? It's universal. Experience it. Use to motivate.
 - Burdens. Saps. Wears down. Grinds away at bone and soul.
 - ♦ Jesus paid it all - in full! Guilt removed before God forever!
 - No one else can offer that. Calm conscience. No guilt = no fear!

- He yokes himself to us by his New Covenant relationship:
 - ♦ *I will be their God and they will be my people.* Jer. 31:33
 - ♦ Experience his promise. Trust it, especially when not sure how.
 - ♦ Daily recognize & praise his protection, direction, blessings.
 - ♦ Often *ordinary*. Occasionally *extraordinary*. Know by experiencing
- Jesus relieves us by changing our perspective (vs. our circumstances)
 - ♦ His word changes what we want, expect, and how to view things. (View it as a burden it becomes one - a heavy one.)
 - ♦ **From** a focus on justice **to** focus on mercy - a heart for slaves of sin
 - ♦ **From** expecting people to be and think like me - **to** see the perspectives they have, evaluate with God's word, if not wrong it will broaden our perspectives
 - ♦ **From** my hopes for my country, my kids, my grandkids, myself - **to** see what God is working now and for the future
 - ♦ **From** *my so called life* - **to** discovering the rich life I have with Jesus.
- ❖ The call to daily live with Jesus - get to know him living with him.
 - Not merely know Jesus like a neighbor you wave to as you pass by
 - Point of entry: meet at his door - get to know him - a start
 - Enter his Study for formal training - Don't: Now I know him well enough.
 - Dine with Jesus. Gather around his Kitchen table. Join him in the Family Room, Rec Room. Work with him in the garden. Help with chores.
 - Like spending time with a parent or grandparent - learning to know them, gaining insights, perspectives, life skills, wisdom - rest!
 - ♦ A visit with Jesus only now and then - loosely yoked to Jesus = unnecessarily restless, weary and burdened life.
 - ♦ Daily hear his invitation:
Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
 - The real Jesus is found in the Bible - the Word lived in relationships

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