

# Pastor's Corner

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September 2010

## **Vacation**

Another summer has passed and the first days of school are here. Vacation is over and it is time to get back into our routines.

Vacations are important in life. We all need time to get away, recharge our batteries, refocus our lives, and spend time together as a family. If we really stop and think about how we spend our time, we spend very little time together as a family. Our children are involved in many things, which require us to run from here to there; and when we throw in our activities, the result is that there is very little time that families spend together. So it is important that we take a "time out" or a vacation to get to know each other again.

Did you know that it was God that first began the vacation? What!?! You don't believe me? If we go back to the first book of the Bible and read the creation story, we see that God created the world and all that is in it—and then God *rested* (took a vacation). Not only did God observe a day of rest, but he commanded his children to observe a time of rest. In Exodus 20: 8-9, it states; "Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work." So God believes that we should not only take a vacation, but should do so on a regular basis.

The vacation or Sabbath that God wants us to observe is to stop and reacquaint ourselves with Him. While our summer vacations are a time to spend with family, the Sabbath is a vacation to spend with God. It is important that we take time to spend with God, so that we can discern what God's will is for our lives. There are so many things that pull us and compete for our time and energies that, if we do not observe the Sabbath, God may not get any of our time.

There is a real danger in not giving God time. God wants to bless us and to provide us with His blessings, but if we do not stop and take time to receive them, then we may miss out on His blessings. I find that if I set aside time to pray, to read scripture and then time just to be with God, as that old hymn goes "the things of earth grow strangely dim," and I become a little less stressed and a little better at handling day to day life.

I hope that you have had a wonderful summer, and I hope that your family was able to spend some time on a vacation. I also hope that you have spent some time and have set aside time for a vacation with God. "Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy," then it may be easier to face the routine of life. May God bless you.

*Rev. Eric Lane*

