



The Orchard

CHRISTIAN MENTORING PROGRAM

...bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.



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CHRISTIAN MENTORING PROGRAM

Learning Session 4: Organization, Time Management, and Project Management



Theological Foundation

Time and Rhythm as Gifts from God

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How Do We Feel About Time?

- **“Why can’t I have it NOW?”**
- **“I hate aging!”**
- **“There’s not enough time!”**



God's Rhythm from Creation

- **Fill the Creation**

- Life bears life
- Spread the garden from Eden

- **Mark the Patterns**

- Sun, moon, stars

- **Rest on the Sabbath**

- Enjoy the progression
- Remember God is on the throne



God's Rhythm from Creation

- **Humans: Sleep and Rest Needed**
 - 1/3 of the day gone (56/168 hrs)
 - 1/7 of the week in sabbath (72/168 hrs)
 - Circadian rhythm
 - We still have to prep meals
 - We're not great at multitasking



God's Rhythm from Creation

- **Discuss:**
 - Does God seem to prioritize efficient productivity as the highest goal for humanity?
 - What are the implications one way or the other?



God's Rhythm from Creation

- **God, Time, and Rhythm**
 - Efficient productivity not highest goal
 - Time is a context for relationship
 - Cares about our internal experience, not just external achievement



God's Rhythm for Israel

- **Weekly Celebration (Sabbath)**
- **Annual Celebrations**
- **Seven Year Celebrations**
- **Fifty Year Celebrations**



God's Rhythm for Israel

- **Annual Celebrations (Lev.23)**
 - Passover (month 1, day 14)
 - Unleavened Bread (week of Passover)
 - First Fruits (Sunday after Passover)
 - Pentecost (50 days after First Fruits; giving of the law at Sinai)
 - Trumpets (month 7, day 1)
 - Yom Kippur (month 7, day 10; Lev.16)
 - Booths (month 7, days 15 – 22)



God's Rhythm for Israel

- **Seven Year Celebrations**
 - Release from debt (Dt.15)
 - Rest for the land (Lev.25:1 – 7)



God's Rhythm for Israel

• **Fifty Year Celebration**

- Jubilee Year (Lev.25:8 – 55)
- Land returned to families
- People returned to land
- Garden of Eden motif



God's Rhythm in Jesus

- **Observant of the Jewish calendar**
- **“My hour has not yet come” / “My hour has come”**
(Jn.2:4; 5:30; 8:20; 12:23; 13:1; 17:1)
- **Crucified on Passover**
 - Deepens the meaning of deliverance
- **Resurrected on First Fruits**
 - Deepens the meaning of new life



God's Rhythm in Jesus

- **Pentecost: Planned or Spontaneous? (Acts 2)**
 - Commemorates the giving of the Law at Sinai
 - God appeared in fire on the mountain
 - Tongues of fire on each disciple



God Speaks His Plans

- **To Himself: ‘Let there be light’; and there was light (Gen.1:3); ten times in Genesis 1**
- **To Abram: ‘I will redeem your descendants from bondage’ (paraphrase of Gen.15:13 – 15)**
- **To Abram and Sarai: ‘You will have a son’ (Gen.17:15 – 19)**
- **To Samuel: ‘David will be king of Israel’ (1 Sam.16:1 – 13)**
- **Etc. etc.**

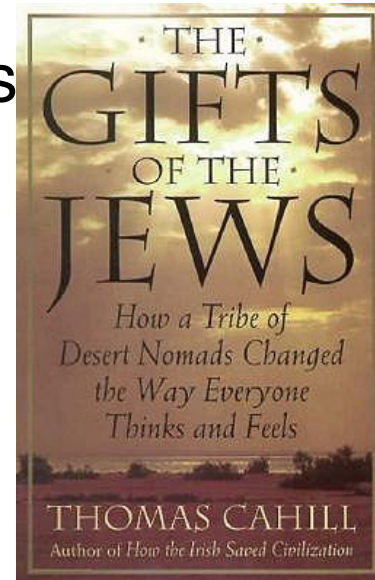


God Speaks His Plans

- **Promise-Fulfillment: God speaks to act, and acts as He has spoken**

- ‘Surely the LORD God will do nothing except that which He reveals to His servants the prophets.’ (Amos 3:7)
- ‘Prophets’ are those to whom God speaks first
- God does not cause everything, only what He has spoken (and even then...)
- God gives people the opportunity to trust

- **The Jews contributed the world’s first linear sense of history, and the “happy ending”**





God Speaks His Plans

- **Discuss:**

- What if God didn't plan?
- What if God didn't speak His plans?