

## **Building strong communities**

Introduction June 18<sup>th</sup> '17

### **Questions for further study**

In this series, we're looking at the 10 commandments given by God to Israel after the Exodus from Egypt. We'll be exploring how these ancient, foundational laws apply into modern life.

#### **'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.'**

1. Look up Exodus 20:8-11; Genesis 2:2. It's worth noting that God did not rest at the end of creation because He was tired. Look up Isaiah 40:28. What can we learn from God's example to us?

We talked about 2 of the ways God's gift (& command) of a Sabbath rest is abused. Firstly, by ignoring this 1 day off in 7, and secondly by over-complicating it in a legalistic way. What experience do you have of these responses to what God has commanded?

The priority on Sundays is to meet together to worship (look up Luke 4:16 & Hebrews 10:25). It's also to include rest, relationships and time to be refreshed. What things do we need to try and guard against in order to preserve these priorities?

2. Christians changed from the Jewish practice of celebrating the Sabbath on a Saturday, to having their "different day" as a Sunday – resurrection day (e.g. Rev 1:10.) Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-33. What principles from this passage help us decide how we use Sundays? What principles could govern what is appropriate for us to do on Sundays?

3. 'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.' What promise does God give those who obey this command? Isaiah 58:13, 14. What can we learn from Jesus' attitude to the Sabbath? Matthew 12:1-14.

What key principles will you take from this study and apply to your life?