

# **Sabbatical Reflections**

**Pastor Tim**  
Sunday, July 4, 2010

## **Scriptures:**

- ❖ Philippians 1: 3-6
- ❖ Psalm 51: 10-12
- ❖ Matthew 18: 12-14
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 4: 7-10, 16-17

## **Sermon Notes:**

## **Digging Deeper: For Personal Devotion or Small Groups Getting to Know You**

1. What was your favorite vacation destination as a child? What made it special to you?
2. What do you do and where do you go when you need to get some good rest?
3. Do you keep a diary, journal or blog? If so, when did you start and why is it important to you?

## **Digging into the Scriptures**

1. Matthew 11: 28-29 speaks to our need to come to Jesus when we are weary and burdened. Jesus tells us to take yoke upon ourselves. What is this yoke? What is required of you to wear this yoke, and what is Jesus wanting you to learn?
2. Read Luke 15: 1-31. Three parables are presented in this chapter. What similarities do you find in the parables? What is unique about each parable? Why does Jesus give us three parables to describe a similar lesson?
3. Reflect on Deuteronomy 11: 18-20. "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates." These words were very important to the Jewish people and they took them literally. Are these words still applicable to our journey today as Christians?
4. The apostle Paul refers to a treasure we have in "jars of clay" in 2 Corinthians 4: 7-10. What is this treasure, and how is God using the circumstances and experiences in your life to enjoy this gift?

## **Practical Application**

1. When was the last time you were able to get some good rest? What can you give up or change so that you can take even a day away to spend some time with the Lord?
2. Start to journal your thoughts, reflections and insights each day for the next two weeks. Remember that this is a tool for you to grow in your faith. You will not be graded and there are no wrong answers. Reflect on your day and on those places and times where you see God at work.