

“Our Time Matters to God”
Romans 14
Sermon Discussion Questions
Sunday, March 5, 2017

1. The topic for this week’s message was God’s view of time. As you get started, take a moment and look back at your week and share some thoughts on how you thought you managed your time. Was it a busy week? Is that normal?
2. Pastor Jim shared that just like food, time is a blessing but can also become an idol. God addressed this by introducing the idea of a Sabbath. Have someone in your group read Exodus 20:8-11 & Deuteronomy 5:12-15. What were the two reasons God had for giving a Sabbath to His people?
3. Based on the Old Testament’s view of the Sabbath, it may not seem like a disputable matter but Pastor Jim pointed out that once Jesus entered the scene, the rules changed. Re-read Romans 14:5 and discuss how you have either seen this in others or, in your own life. Where do you stand in the tension of taking a Sabbath?
4. Though it may be a disputable matter, it does not mean God doesn’t care how we use our time. He does care but wants us to seek Him and His direction in regards to how we use it. That is why it is a personal/ethical decision between us and God. Give an example of a time this view came up in your own life and someone may have challenged you on it. Have you ever felt pressured to take a Sabbath a certain way? Has anyone questioned your views and practice of the Sabbath?
5. The last couple of weeks Pastor Jim has asked us to consider disputable matters in our lives through the lens of five principles: no judging, no gray, no stumbling blocks, no blabbing and no doubt. How may these principles affect the way we look at the issue of time in our spiritual walk?
6. Pastor Jim gave us two applications as a takeaway from the message:
 - a. Invite God into the process of thinking through your schedule
 - b. Ask God how He would like you to incorporate Sabbath into your schedule.

Take a moment and share with each other what God may be saying to you about this topic. Does this seem like an easy thing to let go off and ask God about? Yes, no and why?

As you close, take some time to pray over each other and encourage each other.