Recap

Mt 5-9: Focus on Jesus' authority

- Right to explain the Kingdom of God
- Power over Satan, sickness, and death

Mt 11-12: negative responses to Jesus

- Misunderstanding 11.1-19
- Rejection 11.20-24
- Hostility 12-1.14

MATTHEW RECAP



Sabbath

- Ex 20.8-10 Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work...
- 39 categories of work carrying, cooking, washing, planting, reaping, building, slaughtering

Two questions

- What is acceptable behavior on the Sabbath?
- Who gets to decide?



Jesus Decides what is acceptable on the Sabbath

- Something greater than the Temple is here – Jesus has the authority to create exceptions to the Sabbath rules
- God desires mercy and not sacrifice –
 Jesus is establishing a new value
 system for the Sabbath
- The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath

 Jesus is claiming the authority to
 determine how the Sabbath should be observed



Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.



Thoughts on the Sabbath

Why rest?

- Because God rested and we want to be like Him – Gen 2.2-3
- Rest is part of our creation rhythm
 (rest-work-relationship) Adam/Eve
 rest on their 1st day
- Rest is tangible expression of our faithto be intentionally non-productive when we have so much to do is an act of trust in the God



Thoughts on the Sabbath for Us

How to rest?

- Ideally weekly, but start w/once a month if easier
- Identify what you won't do what are you not going to produce?
- Spend time w/God He alone restores our souls (Ps 23)
- Spend time doing something that you enjoy— what refreshes you?



Communion

What do you think about when you think about God?

- Disappointment?
- Disinterest?
- The Cross



