

Nurturing Faith...

ON VACATION

Goal

Vacations are a great break from the day-to-day grind. We all benefit from putting the stresses of life on hold for a few days to rest and recharge. As followers of Jesus, though, our discipleship shouldn't be put on hold, no matter where we find ourselves! This will require intentionality. Depending on your season of life (parents with children, singles, financial restraints, etc.), vacation comes with its own unique set of joys and struggles. Regardless of our specific situations, the question we should be asking is if vacation should look different for a disciple of Christ than it does for someone who doesn't follow Jesus?



“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”
Colossians 3:17

Consider these questions as you discern how you can vacation to the glory of God:

Question: How is God working in this place, and what does it reveal about God?

Consider: Vacation usually includes the aspect of going somewhere other than the places you normally inhabit. What is unique about the location you are visiting? What aspects of God are revealed by the landscape? What can you learn from the unique people or culture? Look for the ways Christ's Kingdom is manifesting in this place... What about it reminds you of heaven?

Read: Psalm 139:7-12 , Romans 1:19-20 , Genesis 1:26-27

Psalm 19:1-6 , Matthew 6:9-10 , Isaiah 6:3

Question: What is my posture? Do I have an attitude of thankfulness for the blessing of vacation?

Consider: There are many people around the world for whom taking time off is out of the question. Are we thankful for the blessing of vacation? While on vacation, are we selfishly demanding that others serve us, or instead bringing the light of Christ into these new places? How might you serve both those you are vacationing with and those you encounter while away?

Read: James 1:17 , Psalm 69:30-31 , 1 Peter 4:8-11 , Mark 10:42-45

Question: What might God want to reveal to me on vacation? What might He want me to do? (Both now and upon my return.)

Consider: Examine your heart and consider if, for you, vacation is merely an “escape from life,” or a period of slowing down that allows space for God to speak to you! Take advantage of this undistracted opportunity to assess your relationship with your Lord and Savior, examining the ways He may be calling you to join His kingdom work in the places you live, work, study or play!

Read: Proverbs 14:8 , Psalm 139:23-24 , Ephesians 2:8-10 ,
John 20:21-22 , Psalm 23:1-3