

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

Sermon Date

Sunday 10 January. Alan Hulme.

Bible Passages

Matthew 11: 20-30

Theme & Introduction

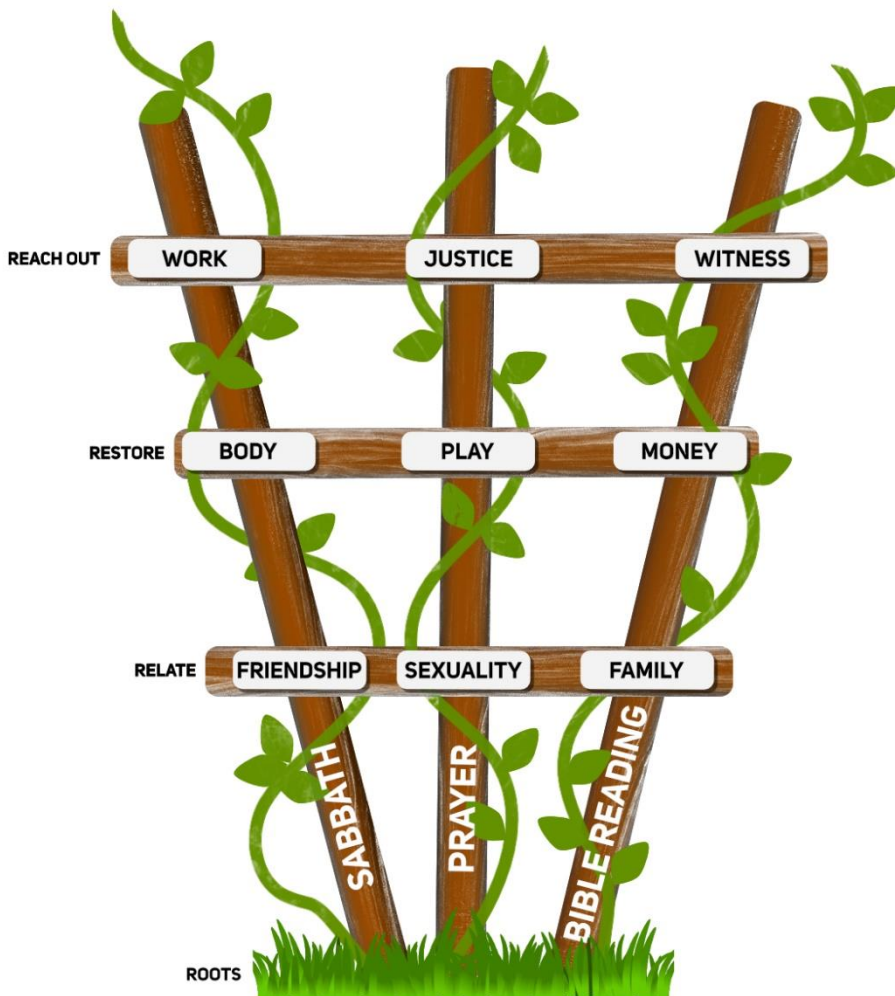
This is the second of two sermons introducing the parish theme for 2021 of “**God in my Everything**”. We will be exploring how the idea of a Rule of Life (or Rhythms of Grace) can help us grow closer to God in an increasingly busy world.

Questions

1. The two trellis diagrams printed on page 2 represent different systems to build our life upon: the world’s way and Jesus’ way. Do you recognise the distinction?
As we mature in the faith, what can help us slowly replace one ‘trellis’ with the other?
What helps us build our life on Christ, not on the world’s ways?
2. Read Matthew 11 20-30
Notice the transition in the passage from:
 - > Jesus’ frustration that people wouldn’t accept what he was saying despite the miracles that accompanied it.
 - > To his stunning statement that only He can reveal God the Father to us.
 - > To his frustrated cry that His way is like a well-fitting yoke in comparison with the rules the scribes and pharisees are holding on to.What does Jesus mean by an easy yoke? Does he mean an easy life or something else?
3. Looking at the trellis diagram, what area(s) might be especially helpful for you to focus on right now? Can you share why?
Sabbath, Prayer, Bible Reading,
Friendship, Sexuality, Family,
Body, Play, Money,
Work, Justice, Witness.
4. Alan mentioned four golden rules to remember as we begin to assemble our rule of life. Which of these might be especially pertinent for you to remember? Why?
 - Start Simply
 - Build Slowly
 - Prune Regularly
 - Stay Flexible – the rule is made for us, not us for the rule.



A typical 'Rule of Life' for the world



A way to build a 'Rule of Life' upon Jesus

END

AJH 07/01/21