

The Place of Rest: A Summer Invitation from Jesus

As you enter summer, you may be carrying more than you realize. For many educators and school leaders, the end of the school year doesn't feel like a simple stopping point. Rather, it feels like crossing a finish line that was run with full strength, long endurance, and often little margin. There is relief, but there is also fatigue, emotional weight, and a mind that doesn't immediately know how to slow down. Jesus's disciples felt the same way. Ministry work takes a lot out of us. Let Scripture speak before filling the summer with plans and projects.

[Read Mark 6:30-31.](#)

What had the disciples been doing? What was Jesus's response?

One detail in this passage is easy to miss but deeply important. Jesus didn't just invite them to rest; He invited them to a *place* of rest. Translations describe that place in various ways: *a quiet place, a deserted place, a solitary place, a desolate place*. The words all point in the same direction—somewhere removed from noise, demands, and constant interruption. It likely was not a glamorous location by the world's standards. It was a place intentionally set apart.

This matters because Jesus did not just address their fatigue. He addressed their environment. He knew that rest was not just a feeling to be managed internally. Rest is something that often requires a *repositioning*—change of space, a withdrawal from what continually demands our attention and drains the soul. For weary educators stepping into summer, this becomes a powerful picture. Jesus is not only saying, “*You need rest,*” but also, “*Come with Me somewhere different.*” Somewhere quiet enough for your soul to settle. Somewhere unhurried enough for your thoughts to slow. Somewhere apart enough that you are no longer defined by the constant needs around you.

What “place” might Jesus be inviting you into this summer—physically, emotionally, or spiritually—where can you finally step out of constant demands and into deeper rest with Him?

What might prevent you from spending time in a quiet place with Jesus?

Rest is rarely something that happens by accident. Rest is something we enter with intention. As you step into this summer, you don't have to rush to fill the space or prove that you are using it well. Instead, you are invited to follow Jesus into a quieter, steadier rhythm. Not just time off but time *with Him*. Not just distance from work but nearness to the One who restores you. The same Jesus who saw the disciples' weariness sees yours. His invitation remains the same today. *Come away to a place of rest with Me.*

Lord Jesus, You know how full this season has been and how much we carry. You know the fatigue we don't always name and the weight we've learned to push through. Thank You for Your gentle invitation to come away with You—to a quiet place, a set-apart place, a place where rest is not just possible but given. As we enter this summer, help us not to rush past Your invitation. Teach us how to slow down. Restore our bodies. Quiet our minds. Refresh our spirits. We receive Your invitation today. In Your name we pray, Amen.

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