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verb

1. become or make larger or more extensive.
2. "their business expanded into other hotels and properties"

KINGDOM SERIES: PEACE | WEEK TWO

"Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Matthew 6:10 NKJV



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EXPAND ACADEMY VISION:

Our heart at Expand Academy is to Equip, Empower, and Expand the kingdom of God ↪
within the believer &
around the globe.

We will gather around the testimony of Jesus Christ. We believe as the Spirit of God kisses the Word of God; it is activated ↪ to produce
eternal fruit in our lives.

Let's expand the
Kingdom of God!

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples of to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

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RECAP:

- We covered Isaiah 26 (Entering the gates- refer to graphic)
- We spoke about the scientific benefits of singing. 🎵
- We dove into John 14: 27 and 1 John 4:18

Jesus teaches us rest

28Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

Come to me- I love when the Lord cast a very wide invitation. We see it here in Matthew 11. We also see it in John 7. Here, He is saying whoever carries a heavy burden- come. In John 7, He says whoever is thirsty, come. Our God is an inviting God & He wants the table full.

1/2 the battle is to come. It’s the same for the gym or anything else that we drag our feet to do that is ultimately for our good.

In our flesh, we think we will power through & figure it out quicker on our own rather than including Jesus in our struggles.

I love that Jesus looks out for the weak and the weary. I love that His grace is sufficient in our weakness. I love that He leaves the 99 to go after the 1. I love that most of His disciples were unqualified, uneducated, ordinary guys. It really gives me courage to know that God is not looking for perfection, but He is looking for present. He is looking for those are willing to get in front of Him so that He can teach them.

We try to find rest in so many different places. They have built a multimillion-dollar industry off of the pursuit of rest. Everything from your dream vacation to massage therapy to epsom salt & bath bombs. Come on somebody- Have you ever needed a vacation to recover from your vacation? Exactly. There are an endless number of ways to “pursue” rest, but there is only One who is 100% true to His promise every single time.



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Everything was created through Jesus. If anyone knows humanity, it's Jesus. He created it, but He also became it. He has an out of this world perspective unlike any other.

Jesus the Teacher-

1. Are you weary & do you carry heavy burdens? There's an invitation for you to COME.
2. "I will give you rest." Rest is something that is received. You don't work for it. You don't earn it. You receive it.
3. "Take my yoke upon you." What is the yoke of Jesus? Everything that Jesus modeled in the scriptures stemmed from His relationship with His Father. The foundation of His yoke was His trust & love-driven obedience to His Father. He was committed to fulfill the purposes and plans of His Father. He operated through the power of the Holy Spirit at the pace of grace in order to fulfill those plans & purposes. Everything He did, He did out of love and obedience to His Father even unto death.
4. "Let me teach you." He is willing to teach us but are we willing to let him.
5. "because I am humble and gentle at heart." Humility and gentleness was foundational for Jesus' effectiveness to teach us rest. I'm led to believe that humility and gentleness must also be foundational for us to learn and live in rest. Pride is absolutely exhausting.
6. "for my yoke is easy to bear." Why is the yoke of Jesus easy to bear? We were created by God for God. The Bible says that God lined our hearts with eternity. The yoke of Jesus is easy to bear because it's a perfect fit for the way that He created us. We were created to be in relationship with the Father. We were created to trust the Father and to live a life of love-driven obedience to the Father. We were created to operate through the power of the Holy Spirit at the pace of grace and to fulfill God's purpose and plans on the earth. The yoke of Jesus is easy when living a surrendered life because it was God's original intent.
7. "the burden I give you is light." Fear & pride are heavy burdens. What Jesus has given us is an invitation into trust & humility. He has invited us into a life of reliance that leads to rest. As we rely on God, we receive His rest.

"Come to me with your ears wide open. Listen and you will find life. I will make an everlasting covenant with you I will give you all the unfailing love I promised David."



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HEAVEN'S ESTABLISHMENT:

The Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. How can the Kingdom of God be established in our lives in a greater way today?

We can never establish or released what we have not first received. The Kingdom has to be established first within our lives before it's established through our lives.

Let's do some inventory: Rest

We leaned into accessing the promise of Matthew 11:28-30. The key to accessing rest that comes from trust and humility.

1. Are you exhausted? I'm not asking if you got enough sleep last night. Are you living from rest or are you exhausted?
2. When dealing with struggles do you try to sort them on your own or do you go to Jesus first?
3. On a scale of 1-10, where do you rate humility and gentleness in your life?

**Holy Spirit,
I'm ready to receive rest, lead me in the ways of Jesus. In Jesus name,
amen.**
