



January 29, 2023
Formed - Slowing

Summary – We all feel the increase in the pace of life. With that pace we have the ability to be informed or entertained 24/7. Today there are less margins for waiting and most of us would define cruel and unusual punishment as being bored. Jesus' life and comments to Martha offer a new narrative about how to live.

Scripture – Psalm 46:10, 27:14; Lamentations 3:25-26; Isaiah 40:31; Romans 8:25; Luke 10:38-42; Ephesians 3:17; Romans 8:39

Community Group Questions:

(There is no obligation to discuss every question/quotation)

Boredom

1. When was the last time you were bored?
2. How can boredom be looked at as something healthy?
3. "I wonder if we don't hear from God because we don't stop and listen."

Waiting on the Lord

1. "Hope and waiting are intertwined in scripture."
2. "I do not steer the rudder of the world."

Mary and Martha

1. Are you more of a Mary or a Martha?
2. "You'll play just like you practice." How are important spiritual disciplines formed in the mundane?
3. How does overvaluing/undervaluing ourselves keep us from relaxing?
4. "Impatience kills relationships."

Application

"Because children have abounding vitality, because they are in spirit fierce and free, therefore they want things repeated and unchanged. They always say, "Do it again"; and the grown-up person does it again until he is nearly dead. For grown-up people are not strong enough to exult in monotony. But perhaps God is strong enough to exult in monotony. It is possible that God says every morning, "Do it again" to the sun; and every evening, "Do it again" to the moon. It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them. It may be that He has the eternal appetite of infancy; for we have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we."

– G.K. Chesterton

Discuss among yourselves some practical ways to slow down this week.