

Devotional Moments.....  
REST, ASK QUESTIONS, LISTENING

Rest.....

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."  
(Matthew 11:28) Today are you weary? burdened? stressed out?  
Maybe it is a "come to Jesus time? Jesus can give us rest.  
We can get so busy we forget to do what Jesus did to stop, to look up, and to quiet ourselves. Jesus separated from the crowds and from the disciples, and took the time needed to renew and recharge. Sometimes that includes taking physical rest, getting more sleep, and living a more healthy life.

Ask Questions.....

In Mark 8:14-21 There is a discussion between Jesus and the disciples. Jesus asks questions and they talk together. Jesus is a master at asking questions. We don't know how long their conversation really went on, perhaps into the next day and longer. Parents, grandparents, church leaders, teaches learn and relearn the importance of asking questions and engaging in conversations. With anyone and sometimes especially with teens and young adults, asking questions can be key for meaningful relationships. Rather than our giving answers and ending discussions, asking questions, and listening make the difference. When was the last time we asked and really listened?

Listening.....

From James 1:19 "...everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry....." It isn't easy to stop talking with someone. We can talk 'at someone' without realizing it. We are trying to help, or are sharing a truth perhaps. We can get excited and sincerely want to explain something. We may even have a worthwhile "agenda". Learning from college ministry its so important to ask questions and hearing students.

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Congratulations to Amy Kinney who was ordained at St. John's UCC in Fostoria, where she is Pastor on February 1. Thanks to all who participated in the service.

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It was a joy to preach at St. Stephen's UCC in Sandusky on February 1. Pastor Fenske is a wonderful Pastor.

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Please remember in prayer the Lay School of the NWOA as the classes have started.

Blessings,

Don