

Sabbath Rest

Our own Sabbath Rest

Just the other day, the two of us grabbed a cup of coffee and tea and sat down in the Adirondack chairs on the deck of the Lodge. The sun had about half an hour before disappearing behind Cedar Mountain, so it would not be long before a wave of much cooler air was to head our way.

The display of the vibrant fall colors on the slopes of the mountains was evidence of the Creator, reminding us once again of His desire to have fellowship with us.

Our conversation was focused on what we learned during the CareGivers conference in Estes Park, CO, in October. We were discussing ways we could implement a weekly day of Sabbath, even while hosting guests in the Lodge. There were not hindrances created by the ones staying in the cabin. But preparing breakfast and dinner (we had already excluded to option to have lunch with us) was preventing us from focusing on a day of Sabbath.

With a few modifications in our procedures, we were indeed able to set aside the time to rest and dwell in the presence of the Lord, and enjoy time with each other.



In order to bear fruit ...

Right before Jesus goes to the cross, He gives His last minute instructions to His followers: *“Live in me, and I will live in you. A branch cannot produce any fruit by itself. It has to stay attached to the vine. In the same way, you cannot produce fruit unless you live in me”* (John 15:4 GW).

In order to survive, each branch in a living plant needs that physical connection, especially so that it can produce fruit and consequently its offspring.

Jesus says that being spiritually connected is like being attached to a vine. You're not going to have any fruitfulness or productivity in your life if you're out there on your own. You've got to stay connected.

How can we nurture that spiritual connection with Him? Reading His Word, and applying it in our daily walk is one of the ways. Another one is to set aside time with Him, resisting the temptation to rush, minimizing disruptions, and “eating” until we are satisfied.

The enemy wants to choke us out of this, so that nothing comes in and nothing comes out. Clearing our schedule, withdrawing into a quiet spot and especially shutting out all electronic noise will help us stay connected!

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The basis for establishing ECFA and developing *Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™* is stated clearly by the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 8:21 (NIV):
“ For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men.”



The purpose of Shepherd's Refuge is:
To strengthen His church to fulfill its Great Commission
by caring for its leadership!

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Shiloh Cabin

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A non-profit ministry
recognized as a 501 (c) 3
organization.

Items that need to be funded:

Microwave \$98, Toaster \$48, ~~Toaster Oven \$268~~, Coffee Maker \$76, Hot Plate \$130, ~~Refrigerator \$575~~, Hot water kettle \$30, ~~Hair dryer \$30~~, 3 sets of Towels \$50 each, Shower rod curved \$40, Shower curtain/liner \$35, ~~Queen bed frame and mattress \$1300~~, 2 Night stands \$225 each, Chest of Drawers \$500, 2 sets Bed linen \$875 each, 2 Ceiling fans \$130 each, 2 Pillows \$25 each, Duvet \$140, several Lamps \$200, Coffee table \$150, Love seat \$400, Window treatments \$100. You might say there are some obvious items missing from that list. That is absolutely correct. We have been blessed by some of you who have already sent us dedicated donations, and also items that we have kept in storage until the opening day! THANK YOU!

BIG steps are completed in and for the Shiloh Cabin:

- Foam insulation applied
- Tongue and Groove ceiling and wainscot installed
- Sheetrock hung (thanks Perry, John and Richard!)
- Web site is updated, showing the available dates to reserve the cabin!

Next big steps are:

- Mud and tape sheetrock
- Stain and paint
- Final installation of the Mitsubishi Mini-Split heating and cooling system
- Plumbing finish out
- Electric finish out
- Cabinets
- Flooring
- Guests (see below)



Shiloh Cabin cont.

Reservations to stay in the Shiloh have already come in, the first one is for the second half of February, some in March and April, and one even for October of 2017!