



## **Isaiah 56:1-8** **‘God isn’t finished yet** **Week 6**

### **Read Isaiah 56:1-8**

In these verses we see God’s plan for his saved people. He calls them to shine a light on his glory by living lives that are worthy of him and that make him known to others. The specific example used in this text focuses on the Sabbath. They aren’t saved by keeping the Sabbath, but they are called to keep the Sabbath, as an expression of their relationship with God. We will get to this in the second half of the study.

For now, let’s reflect on the missionary heart of God. Our great God delights in bringing salvation to unworthy people. We see that his compassion reaches far beyond Israel—to the nations. To those without hope of a future, he extends an invitation to share in eternity.

**Discuss together how Stromlo Church can aim to participate further in God’s missionary plans in the following contexts:**

- **your personal relationships with family, friends, neighbours, colleagues, etc**
- **people in the regions of Molonglo and Weston Creek, or other areas you’d like to mention**
- **what special or particular opportunities do we have at Stromlo to proclaim Christ?**

Spend time in prayer for *one another* and *Stromlo Church*, asking God to work through us to bring others into relationship with him through Jesus.

**Read over Isaiah 56 again and consider the Sabbath**

The 10 Commandments are described in two passages in the first five books of the Bible and two different reasons are given for keeping the Sabbath. **What are the reasons in each of these passages?**

**Exodus 20:8-11**

**Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

**Comparing these two passages, how might we apply teaching on the Sabbath to God's call to love and trust him above all, and to love our neighbour as ourselves?**

The New Testament reveals how the Law is fulfilled in Jesus and how law-keeping is not the means to acceptance by God. Jesus completely transforms how Christians are to relate to the laws given to Israel. Given that the Sabbath is anchored both in creation and redemption, Christians differ in their understanding of how God wants us to treat the Sabbath today. **What light do the following New Testament passages shed on the place of the Sabbath today?**

**Matthew 12:1-14**

**Colossians 2:13-23**

**Hebrews 4:1-11**

**Discuss together how you see God calling us to live out his teaching on the Sabbath?**

**Spend time praying about these and other matters.**