

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

For the sake of time, you may want to choose one or two questions.

Warm Up

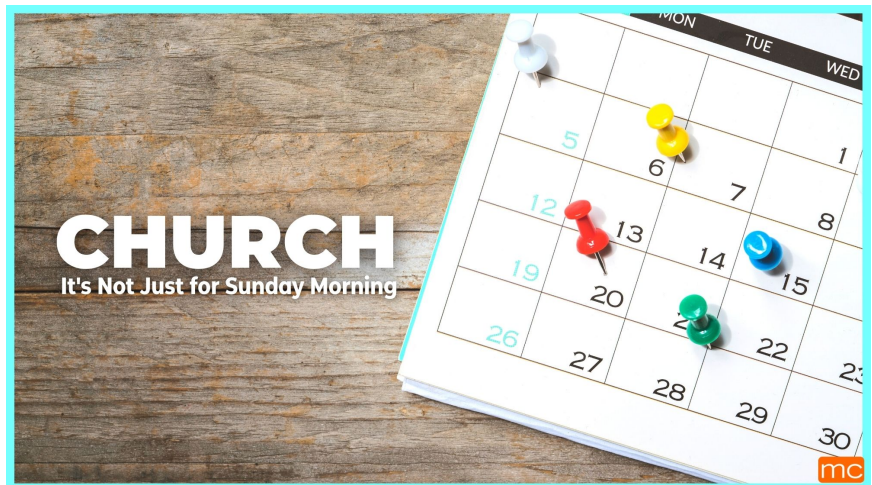
Do you remember going to the bank on Friday evenings? How have your banking practices changed over the years? What banking innovations do you like? What changes don't you care for?

Read

Isaiah 43:18-19

Discuss

1. What parallels are there between changes in the banking industry and changes in the church? Do you think the church needs to change in ways similar to how the banking industry has changed?
2. At the core, what is church really about? How would you describe the concept of church to someone who was unfamiliar with the term? What practices are essential to the healthy existence of the church?
3. Does it seem peculiar to you that most churches only meet on Sunday mornings? Why or why not? Do you think it is important for the church to offer opportunities to engage other than Sunday mornings?
4. As you see the church changing, what changes are most difficult for you to embrace? Why? What changes are easiest for you to accept?
5. If you had to describe what the church will look like twenty years from now, what would you say? In what ways do you think the church will be different two decades from now?
6. Given what you know about Jesus' life in the early first century, how do you think he would view change in the church? How did he view change in his own culture of Judaism?



7. Do the changes you envision coming to the church excite you or scare you? Why? What is your temperament for change?

Wrap Up:

Spend time in prayer together.