

Scripture and Background Information for January 12-18

The Soul Can't Hustle

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

Hustle is the way to win at almost anything in life, except when it comes to our souls. Most of us are living an external life that our internal life can't keep up with. All of our "getting ahead" has left us feeling like we'll never catch up. We're anxious, exhausted, overwhelmed and lonely, and we think it has to be this way. What if it doesn't? This four-week series is designed to help 2020 be the year we finally find a life that doesn't cost us everything.

Background for Mark 2:27-28

Mark's short story scene in verses 23-28 is full of information. The Pharisees believe that they have caught the disciples doing something sinful. According to the Pharisees, no work could be done on the Sabbath, a day that was set apart. This work includes the disciples gathering a handful of food.

However, Jesus reminds them that David, himself, would have also been guilty of this same sin. With this simple reminder, he calls into question the Pharisees understanding of the law as a set of rules and regulations that govern everyday life. In verses 27 and 28, Jesus reminds the Pharisees that it is for our benefit and not God's benefit that we take a day that is set apart. Jesus also reminds them that He is Lord every day. Therefore, we do not take a day that is set apart or a day of rest to religiously please God. Instead, we take it so that we might rest in Him and His ability to provide.

Scriptures for the upcoming weeks:

January 19

January 26

Mark 6:7-11

Acts 3:1-10