



RESTING

The idea of rest seems like a luxury in our current society due to the busyness of our lives. Some of us can't even remember the last time we were "fully rested." For others of you, a vacation is merely a form of working outside of the office surrounded by nice scenery. Whether it's traveling somewhere or staying home, all of us have a desire to rest, or at least feel rested.

For many of us, it's not simply about physical rest, although this is important, what we want more than anything is for our minds to be refreshed. This is why I believe that true resting is when we are able to get our focus away from busyness of life and take time for our thoughts to refocus on things that really matter.

And so with this idea in mind, I did a mini experiment on myself this past summer by declaring an *Internet-fast* during my 5-week stay in Korea. I wanted to be fully there for my family, who I don't get to see often enough, and I decided to take a break from the internet, period. As you can probably guess, I failed in less than a couple of days as I was secretly logging into my Gmail account.

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Want to learn more about Binnerri English Ministry?
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And although my Internet-fast didn't go quite as I had originally planned, God revealed an important truth to me during this trip that helped me to come back to Dallas fully rested. Just as everything seems tiny when we are high up in the air, I realized that our current struggles and problems, which often seem so huge when we are in the middle of it, aren't so big when we acknowledge that God really is in control. The more we focus on us, and all the stuff on we have on our plates, the more helpless we will feel, and ultimately we'll miss out on the big plan that God has for our lives.

As we are at the tail end of summer and looking ahead to the Fall and Winter of 2010, let's be reminded of how great God is and how much He has provided for all of us up to this day. He's been in complete control, and He will continue to lead and guide us as we trust in Him. And may we take time everyday to fully rest in God as we surrender each day to Him in our hearts and in our thoughts.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." - Matthew 11:28

- Grace Choi



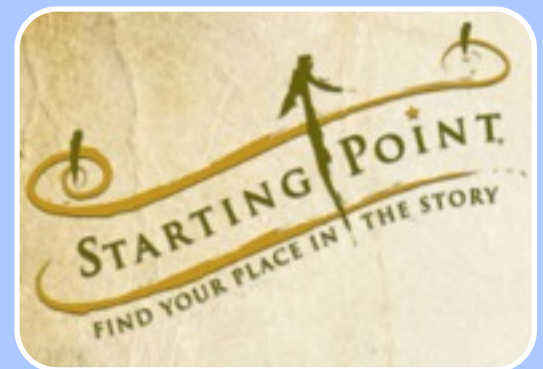
LifeGroup is what we call our small group environment. The goal of our LifeGroups is to *"provide a predictable small group environment where participants experience authentic community and spiritual growth and do life together."* We believe that true life change happens best in the context of a structured relationship. And our best expression of these relationships is found in the small group ministry.

LifeGroups are safe environments where real life and real issues can be discussed. It's a place where we celebrate the successes and the good times of life, as well as comfort one another during the tough and disappointing times. And it's a place where we can come to encourage, equip, and challenge one another to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

We will be launching new LifeGroups next month, and we would love for you to take that next step and to consider getting into a LifeGroup in this season of your faith journey. If you have any questions please visit our website: www.binnerriem.org/connect/lifegroups.

Starting Point is a conversational environment open for all to explore faith and experience community. The goal of Starting Point is to help participants find their place in God's story. It's primarily designed for seekers, starters, and returners. *Seekers* are those who are curious about God, Jesus, the Bible, or Christianity. *Starters* are those who have just begun a relationship with Jesus Christ. And *Returners* are those who have some church experience, but have been away for a while.

The next Starting Point orientation will be on Sunday, September 12th. There is no commitment when you come to the orientation, just show up to find out more on what it's all about. You can also find more information about Starting Point on our website: www.binnerriem.org/startingpoint.



OUR VACATIONS

We asked a few of our congregation members to share some memorable moments from their summer vacation. Here's what they had to say.



Daniel Bae: Seattle/Vancouver

I had the opportunity to go to Seattle/Vancouver for my official vacation. I had a great time visiting family and seeing all the sites. I have always been drawn to nature and the Pacific Northwest is a place where I continually see God's fingerprint on creation. Life tends to become very routine and redundant for me here at home, but rest and being away brings about new perspective and rejuvenation. I enjoyed the wilderness, and got to experience how truly majestic the ocean and mountains are. And even with everything I was surrounded by, I wonder how lacking those things are next to the Creator of the universe.

Jina Cha: Portland, Maine

In July, I went to Portland, Maine, primarily because I had to move out of my old apartment and into a new one before the start of the Fall semester. I saw the opportunity for to spend some extra days there, and ended up make it a vacation as well. I stayed for a week and really enjoyed my time there. It's a beautiful and tranquil place, and I was able to relax and get recharged before the new school year. Praise God for such a wonderful vacation!



David and Jamie Lee: Alaska

We took a family vacation trip to Alaska this summer. Our journey started in Fairbanks, in the interior of Alaska, down to Seward where we got on board our cruise ship, the *Celebrity Millenium*. During the land portion of our trip, we did various activities such as panning for gold flakes, hiking in the Denali National Park, and enjoying the magnificent view of Mount Mckinley (the highest mountain peak in North America). God blessed us with great weather throughout our trip, and we were able to get an absolutely clear view at the peak that only 30% of the visitors get to see all year around.

From Seward, our 6-day cruise took us sailing in and out of the Alaskan coast ending in Vancouver, Canada. During our cruise, we went on many excursions including bike riding in Skagway, kayaking in Ketchikan, and visiting Hubbard and Mendenhall glaciers. Of course, there were plenty of things to do on the cruise with unlimited amount of food and entertainment.

ATTENDANCE & FINANCIAL REPORT

[Details have been removed for our online version]

UPCOMING EVENTS

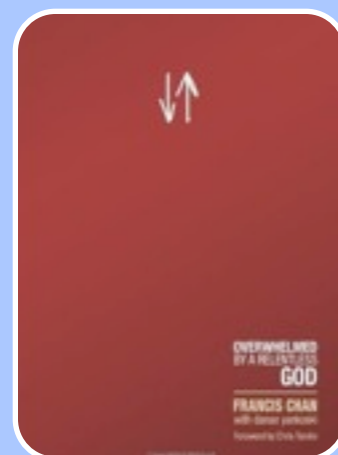
- Saturday, 9.11 - Men's Prayer Meeting, 6:30 AM
- Sunday, 9.12 - LifeGroup Launch & Sign-ups
- Sunday, 9.12 - Starting Point Orientation, 11:15 AM & 1:00 PM
- Saturday, 9.18 - Women's Prayer Meeting, 6:30 AM
- Wednesday, 9.29 - Pathway Gathering, 7:30 PM

BOOK AND ALBUM REVIEW

Book Review: *Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God* by Francis Chan

God is love. Crazy, relentless, all-powerful love. Have you ever wondered if we're missing it? It's crazy, if you think about it. The God and Creator of the universe loves us with a radical, unconditional, self-sacrificing love, and He's calling us to a passionate love relationship with Himself. And once you encounter His love, you will never be the same, because when you're wildly in love with someone, it changes everything.

Francis Chan, a well sought out conference speaker and pastor, shares some of his own personal stories on how he has experienced God's overwhelming love, and encourages his readers on how they are live out of God's seemingly crazy love towards us. You can find this book on Amazon.com.



Album Review: "Awakening" by Passion (Various Artists)

Sixstepsrecords presents Passion's latest album, highlighting some of the best moments of the Passion 2010 Conference in Atlanta, GA, where over 22,000 university students from all over the United States gathered for a time of praise and worship. The album features new music from worship artists such as Chris Tomlin, David Crowder Band, Charlie Hall, Matt Redman, Christy Nockels, and Kristian Stanfill. This is a great album to add to your music collection, and is available on iTunes or at Amazon.com.

Want to submit an article? We'd love to hear from you! E-mail us with your articles and ideas at connections@binnerriem.org. Submissions must be made by the third Sunday of each month.

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