

TALK IT OVER

God's Way

BOTTOM LINE

Margin – not a rule but restraint, designed by God for people who forgot how to be human.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What event or activity on my schedule next week do I truly anticipate?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [Creating Margin in a Busy Life](#) - by John Maxwell

VERSES AND QUOTES

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace. 1 Corinthians 14:33 ESV

So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink," or "What shall we wear?" For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. Matthew 6:31-32 NIV

But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33 NHEB

"We wear busyness today like a badge of honor. But the truth is, for many of us life is not just busy, it is crowded. And when life becomes crowded, something important begins to disappear. A life with margin, a life that is not crowded, is more available, more generous, and more alive."

"To be a successful follower of Jesus, you have to have a sustainable pace with your schedule, your relationships, and your finances."

"The driver behind a margin-less life is fear. Our fear of not being significant has the potential to draw us away from what IS significant."

"Building margin and creating space is a trust issue." – Quotes by Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

How do you feel an outside observer would view your margin? How does your family view it? What drives your schedule? What drives your spending? What drives your relationships? Do these questions cause you to feel defensive? Do you agree that building margin and creating space is a faith issue? Why or why not? When God set the Israelites free from Egypt, He gave them a set of rules to live by that created margin. He has also designed a system of holy margins to protect your soul, your family, and your future. **The Sabbath** is a margin to heal those of us who have forgotten how to be human. How does keeping the Sabbath teach us to trust and create margin? How does **the Tithe** create margin and teach us to trust? Why is this particularly difficult? How does the **Law of Generosity** cause us to trust and defeat the "hand-to-mouth" culture? Why does God want us to prioritize making space in our margins for others? Many think this way of life does not work now. What is your experience? What does it mean to you that God knows the things "you run after"? Do you struggle to believe that He sees and cares? In the effort to get the most out of life, are there areas where it is easy for you to lose control of your life?

ACTION STEP

This week I will work with God to set the appropriate limits and margins for my life by _____
_____. I will not allow culture or fear to set my margins.