

THE BIG IDEA: When we rest in his work, we'll be ready to do the rest of ours.

The Take-Off

Satisfaction seems to be elusive, and Rolling Stone magazine agrees: (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction by The Rolling Stones was listed as the 2nd greatest song of all time.

It's themes of frustration due to relationships and consumerism still resonate with people 50 years later!

This sense of being unsatisfied isn't a "world" problem, but a human one, and it's reached into the church as well.

The God who sent Jesus to give us peace, now has a church full of people living lives that are in pieces.

Maybe not from a tragedy or broken perspective, but definitely from a fragmented perspective, right?

We are all over the place, and as a result we can relate to STRESS more than REST!

Half of Americans say they've had major stressful event in the past year, and 26% in the last month.

Poor health and poor finances lead the way among the stressors, and 65% of people ages 18-29 are stressed because they have too many responsibilities.

In fact, the easiest test to measure your stress level may be how you respond to the idea that God wants you to rest.

If you're super stressed, the first thing you thought was, "Great! Something ELSE to figure out how to do!!"

That's NOT the response we want for you, and I think that scripturally, we can see some truths that - when we really know them and embrace them - can help us find rest and satisfaction.

Perhaps no truth is more key to our satisfaction than the truth that Jesus spoke in John 19:30.

1. It is finished

- a. Without raising your hand or pointing at someone sitting hear you, where do you rate on the scale of finishing things?
- b. How many procrastinators do we have in the house this morning?
- c. I found at least one procrastinator who tried to give non-procrastinators a glimpse into the procrastinator's mind by preparing a flowchart to help the world understand how procrastinators make decisions about what they will - and will not - do. **[Image - Procrastinator Flowchart]**
- d. Whether we like it or not, procrastination is here to stay, or will be eventually, right?
- e. I love this billboard from Lowe's using that truth to advertise. **[Image - Lowe's billboard]**
- f. Maybe you procrastinate, maybe you don't. The point right now - the main foundational FACT that we need to understand if we're to live lives of satisFACTion - is simply this: Jesus wasn't.
- g. From the cross, at the pinnacle moment of his mission, Jesus said one word - tetelestai - "it is finished"
- h. Grammar lesson!! The Greek word is written in the perfect passive indicative. That's critical:
 - PERFECT: action is completed but the result is ongoing with full effect (a redemptive echo!!)
 - PASSIVE: the subject of the sentence is being acted upon (Jesus did the work)
 - INDICATIVE: a statement of fact or actual occurrence from the writer's perspective (no doubt)
- i. This is a monumental FACT - not an opinion, not an assumption, a FACT
- j. Not it might be finished, or it's kind of finished, but it IS finished, and it IS finished so emphatically that it echoes on for eternity

2. What exactly is "it?"

- a. Ok, so "it" is finished. Great, but only if we know what "it" is. So, what did Jesus do?
- b. Matthew 5:17 / He perfectly fulfilled the law of God and the prophecies of God about the Messiah
 - Over 60 prophecies. Odds of one man fulfilling only 8? A 1 with 17 zeroes!
 - That many silver dollars laid flat would cover Texas 2 feet deep. The odds of marking one with an X and the allowing a man to walk the state and pick one and him picking the marked one is 10^{17} .
- c. John 12:46 and 14:6 / Jesus came as light to save men and show them the way out of darkness
- d. Romans 5:6-11 / Jesus came to reconcile us back to God by his death and resurrection
- e. Colossians 2:13-15 / Jesus came and PAID IN FULL the debt of sin that we owed (death - Roman 6:23)
- f. I love how Matthew Henry sums up tetelestai in his commentary:
- g. ***It is finished, that is, the work of man's redemption and salvation is now completed, at least the hardest part of the undertaking is over; a full satisfaction is made to the justice of God, a fatal blow given to the power of Satan, a fountain of grace opened that shall ever flow, a foundation of peace and happiness laid that shall never fail.***

3. So now what?

- a. Sometimes, this can be a tough question to answer, can't it? If it is finished, then why do we still do?
- b. Simple: Jesus did what only he could so that we can do what he's told us to do.
- c. The PAYMENT FOR SIN is finished. The PROCLAMATION of it is not.
- d. Jesus left, gave us his spirit, and gave us one job: go, and wherever you go, make disciples.
- e. Admittedly we've messed this up for as many years as Jesus has left us the work to do, and so I don't expect to clear it all up in one morning, but I do think this hammock can help us understand the relation between what Jesus did and we do.
- f. The hammock is what Jesus did for us on the cross, the part that is summed up in the word tetelestai.
- g. It's the part we put our trust in.
- h. When we put our full trust in Jesus and his work, we find ourselves fully satisfied in him, and we rest.
- i. But there's still work to do - work that he's called us to do. John 4:35 is clear - it's harvest time!!
- j. If we lay around in a hammock when the yard needs mowing, we're lazy.
- k. If we lay around in a hammock when the yard is finished, we're resting.
- l. The difference between rest and laziness is nothing more than the condition of the yard.
- m. Hammocks are the best on vacations and after the yard work's been done! (resting for and from our work)
- n. We work - preaching the good news about a God who paid the debt of sin in full - and we rest our souls in peace with God through a relationship with God that we could never have done, a hammock we could never have afforded or hung.
- o. The Big Idea? When we rest in his work, we'll be ready to do the rest of ours.

The Landing

How do we keep this FACT at the forefront of our soul? How do we ensure that we don't slip back into the frantic faith that always tries to finish for ourselves what Jesus has already finished for us?

Simple: we remind ourselves of what Jesus has already done. This is the foundation of the satisfied life: his completed work on the cross for our salvation.

To help you with that, we've prepared cards for you to take home with 8 simple declarations about what we can do because of what Jesus has done.

8 FACTS that are strong enough to hold your faith.

A hammock, if you will, that you and I can rest in, because Jesus has finished the work of preparing it for us.

Now, we can rest in his work.

Tetelestai.

It is finished!