

Tales of the Pointless People

By Daniel Erlander (based on a story by Anne Herbert)



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Chapter Seven: The Sabbath Gift

This chapter was written during a three-month sabbatical from campus ministry. Upon returning I read this chapter to the chapel community.

Many years after the pointkeepers had left the garden, God decided to give them a gift – a wonderful gift which would remind them of the old garden and playground and park. God wrapped the gift in a beautiful package to attract their attention. It worked! The pointkeepers gathered around the package, pulled the strings and opened it. There they beheld a word – SABBATH – complete with instruction on how to do Sabbath.

Here's how it works: You take time off from work to do nothing but enjoy friendship with God, others, and nature. During this time you can even run in meadows, hide in forests, and act silly. You can lie in the grass and watch clouds roll by. The time-gift includes a day each week, and a year every seven years – a whole year to do nothing but enjoy God. Wow! The people said, "This is pointless, but let's try it anyway." They did, and behold it was fun!

