



CultureBound

MAGAZINE



Culture in Vacation

How do people view their time off?
What are some traditions of vacation?

JUNE 2021



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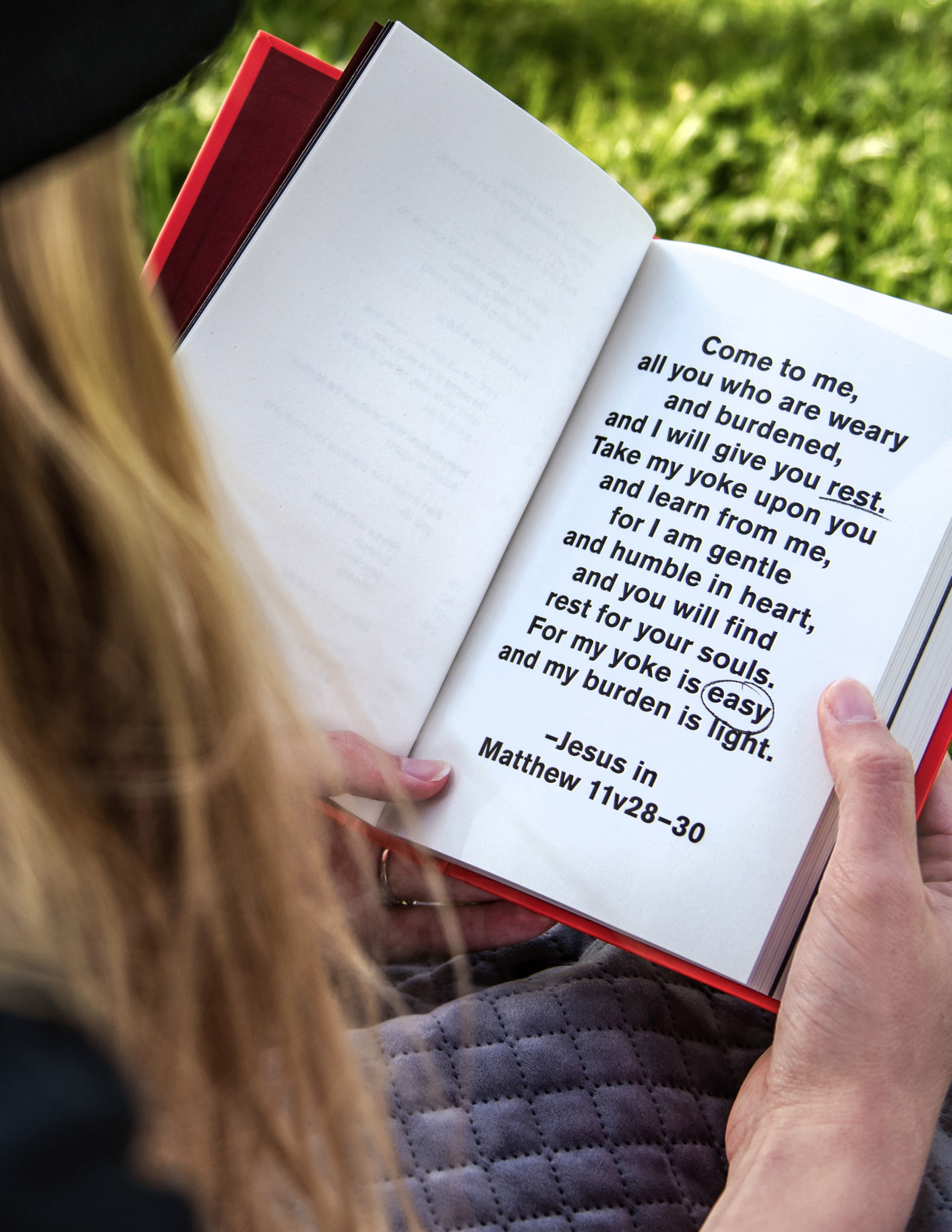
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When you have some time off, we would love for you to join our CultureCourse or LanguageCourse!

Recreation and Vacation: Sabbath Rest?

Dr. Terry Steele, Ph. D., Dr. of Missiology

Summer is approaching and school vacation has begun. Events and holidays are warming up. Does vacation mean recreational activities for your family? Is sight-seeing a vacation? Do you vacation alone or as an extended family? Do you take the opportunity of vacation to rest and recharge or seek adventure?

Exodus 16 introduces the formal idea of a Sabbath - a day of rest. Scripture seems to indicate that periodic rest is necessary in order to function at the highest possible level. God made us to enjoy rest. Some companies have attempted to implement seven-day work cycles. However, they've discovered this only works for short periods.



Come to me,
all you who are weary
and burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you
and learn from me,
for I am gentle
and humble in heart,
and you will find
rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy
and my burden is light.

-Jesus in
Matthew 11v28-30

Extra rest is usually required to allow employees to recover to their full potential. Ongoing seven-day work cycles usually end with disaster and widespread burnout. It is humorous to see how some humans seek to break God's design for humans need for rest. God knew a Sabbath rest was healthy for human beings.

The Sabbath was the seventh day, on which God rested during creation week, so the Sabbath was to be kept holy, or specially set apart. The Biblical Sabbath was special for this reason, but it is not unique or singular in human history. Christians of all stripes, and a few Christian offshoots, have embraced the idea of rest on a Sabbath day. Dingane's Day is observed once a year by South Africa commemorating the Boar victory over the Zulu in 1838. Muslims share the observance of a Sabbath, though their "Friday prayer" does not recognize Saturday as the day of rest. The Babylonians

celebrated "holy-days," though these were "evil days" meaning work on such days were prohibited activities rather than days of rest. The cultures of Nepal and parts of Malaysia recognize part of Friday and Saturday and non-religious days of rest.

Does the Bible have anything to say about using vacation as rest days? We have examples of the land being given a Sabbath year, the year of Jubilee, which was a year of rest (Lev. 25), where not only was land given a rest, but debts were canceled, land returned to the original owners, and slaves were freed. Vacations may not be spoken of directly in these passages but the Sabbath year could be seen as a justification of taking more than just one day a week to rest.

Rest is biblical and necessary for survival. What will your rest be this summer?



Vacation Tradition

Everyone looks forward to vacation. Time off from work and school and a change from normal activities allows you freedom to travel, spend time with family and friends, or just relax by yourself. Vacation and time off are important periods of rest.

At CultureBound, we look at vacation through the language of culture called “time.” In the flow of life, work, school, and normal life, what does it mean to “vacation?”





Vacation culture is different around the world. We looked at the way Americans vacation in an email earlier this month. What about people in other countries? Let's take a look at some different vacation traditions around the world.

In Mexico, the most important period of time off surrounds Easter. During two weeks in March or April, schools and businesses close for everyone. People get together with extended family and celebrate Semana Santa (Holy Week). This is a much more collective time off experience that often includes visits with family woven together with fun activities like water parks or amusement parks.

In European countries, a slower pace is standard and more vacation time is given. Compared to the typical two weeks time off in the United States, most Europeans will receive a minimum 30 days vacation per year. Many Europeans will travel to the United States for weeks or months at a time in order to explore many destinations.

In India, there are periods of time off throughout the year set aside for festivals and celebrations of the Hindu religion. It would be unthinkable to travel elsewhere during these festivals. Some are so popular that foreigners travel to India for their vacation in order to celebrate with the locals.

As you can see, the idea of "vacation" is understood differently all over the world. Every culture has their own traditions that translate into length of time, locations, activities, and other elements of vacation. When you plan your next vacation, stop to think about how someone on the other side of the globe might be spending their time off.

Most Visited Cities - 2019

See the map below for the most visited cities in the world in 2019. Along with ranking you will find the number of visitors. This data collected from the Mastercard Global Destination Cities Index. <https://www.businessinsider.com/most-visited-cities-around-the-world-ranked-2019-9>



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CultureBound + YOU

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**When you have some time off,
join us for a cohort course!**

As we are talking about rest and vacation, we know that it's not always possible to travel or be with family. Many people enjoy just taking time off at home alone. When that time comes around for you, we hope you would consider joining us for a cohort course.

Since our courses are fully virtual, you can connect with others from the comfort of your own home. You will learn invaluable information about how to learn culture so you can communicate and build relationships with those you come in contact with on a daily basis. We also teach you how to learn a language.



香家古巷

善墨書舍汪子善書

中國珠海唐家灣

Our CultureCourse teaches you the foundations of culture. Each day includes online video lessons, field trips to complete in your location, and training sessions with peer interaction. Our experienced trainers teach you lessons on relational theology, God's culture tree, forming a culturally appropriate ministry, and more. At the end of this approximately 30-hour course, you will receive a certificate of completion. CultureCourse is led by our executive director, Mark Hedinger, who spent 12 years living and teaching in Mexico.

For more information or to register, visit our website!
www.culturebound.org

Our LanguageCourse teaches you how to learn a language. Each day includes online video lessons, working with a language helper, and live training sessions with peer interaction. This missions-specific course includes lessons on relational learning, knowing yourself as a language learner, listening comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, speaking, and more. At the end of this approximately 35-hour course, you will receive a certificate of completion. LanguageCourse is led by our Director of Language Acquisition, Karen Hedinger, who also lived and taught in Mexico for 12 years.

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