

THE LORD OF THE SABBATH

Matthew 12; Mark 2-3; Luke 6



One day, Jesus and His disciples were passing through some fields of grain. His disciples were hungry and began to pick and eat some of the grain. The Pharisees saw this and said, “Why are Your disciples breaking the law by doing work on the Sabbath?”

Jesus replied, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and his men were hungry? They entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which was against the law for them.” Only priests were allowed to eat that bread.

Jesus also said, “Do you know what the prophet Hosea meant when he said that God desires mercy and not sacrifice? If you did, you would not have told My disciples they were doing wrong. The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath. The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

On another Sabbath day, Jesus entered the synagogue and began teaching. He saw a man who had a shriveled hand. To accuse Jesus, the religious leaders were watching Jesus closely to see if He would heal on the Sabbath.

But Jesus knew their thoughts, and He

was angry and sad at the hardness of their hearts. Jesus reminded the religious leaders that it was right to do good and save a life because this actually kept God’s law.

Jesus said, “If you had a sheep that fell into a pit on the Sabbath, wouldn’t you lift it out? A person is worth far more than a sheep, so it is lawful to do what is good on the Sabbath.”

Then He told the man, “Stretch out your hand.” The man stretched out his hand, and it was completely healed! The Pharisees were filled with rage and left, thinking about how they might put Jesus to death.

Christ Connection: Jesus showed that God gives us commands to help us, not to hurt us. Jesus rules over all. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to show God’s love and do good by rescuing sinners.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» The Lord gave us the command to rest for our good and His glory. Draw pictures below of some ways you and your family rest.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» What was the difference between God's view of the Sabbath and the religious leaders' view of the Sabbath?

GOSPEL DISCUSSION

Sin separates us from God. But God never stopped wanting a right relationship with us. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross, and rose again so that people can be saved when they repent and put their faith in Him.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

- » Why did Jesus refer to the Old Testament when speaking to the religious leaders?

- » What does it mean when God says He desires mercy, not sacrifice?

- » Why did God create the Sabbath?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus showed that God gives us commands to help us, not to hurt us. Jesus rules over all. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to show God's love and do good by rescuing sinners.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Matthew 5:16 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for demonstrating His love for us and showing us how to care for others.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Exodus 20:8-11

☐ Hebrews 4:9

☐ Mark 2:27

☐ Matthew 11:28-30

☐ Genesis 2:3

☐ Psalm 23:1-2