

Sunday, 09-10-2023

2023-2024 Fall Quarter
Unit I: "Love Completes, Law Falls Short"

Is It Lawful to Heal on the Sabbath?
Bible Background: Luke 14:1-6
Printed Text: Luke 14:1-6 KJV/NIV
Devotional Reading: Hebrews 4:1-10

Prayer: *Our heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son to teach us what it means to have Your heart. We are grateful for the example Jesus gave of true servitude. Continue to teach us Thy ways through Your words as we allow our lives to be a lesson for those who don't know You. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.*

Unifying Lesson Principle:

1. There is a time and place for everything. *Is it right to do a good deed at the wrong time?* Jesus demonstrated compassion for a sick man when He healed him at a Sabbath meal despite the critical eyes of the Pharisees upon Him.
 - a. We are not to add to or take away from the word of God (**Deuteronomy 12:32**), but to show love, mercy, grace, and compassion as Jesus Christ has shown us (**Psalms 85:7-13**). When grace is extended to those in need, God is honored. Jesus demonstrated that on the Sabbath on seven (7) unique occasions.

Lesson Objectives:

1. Understand why Jesus' teaching challenged the religious sensibilities of the Pharisees.
2. Examine legalistic tendencies (personal and congregational) that block spiritual growth.
3. Compare and contrast pharisaic laws with church "laws" or constitutional debates in their own denomination.

Devotional Reading: Thursday: Rest for God's People – Hebrews 4:1-10

- (v.2) – To increase in faith, I must hear the preached Gospel and put it into practice (**1 Thessalonians 2:10-13**).
- (vv. 6-7) – Lack of peace/rest is caused by not fully believing/trusting in the Lord our God as well as disobeying His word (**John 14:1-4; Hebrews 3:14-19**).

Exposition and Application of the Scripture: Sunday – The Sabbath Is for Doing Good – Luke 14:1-6

A. An Invitation of the Sabbath (v. 1)

- Resting on the Sabbath doesn't mean to be lazy and ignore all that our Father has created and what He's delivered me from (**Wed: Exodus 20:8-11**). The example Jesus' set was that of purpose; to honor the Father and to do good (**Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:16-21**). The Sabbath is for Kindred spirits and not for those with ulterior motives.

B. Jesus Heals on the Sabbath (vv. 2-4)

- Regardless of the day, I must show love and compassion to those in need (**Luke 6:6-11**). I must be mindful of my actions as I'm being watched for being an ambassador of Jesus Christ. It's important to place people over principle and not just go through the motions with no substance. If I don't know an answer to a question/situation, I should look it up in scripture and wait for an answer from God. I can't use silence as an excuse for not knowing/doing (**Acts 8:26-39**). Don't be bullied into conforming to societal norms while neglecting to honor God (**Romans 12:1-3**). Don't let pridefulness/ignorance hinder my acceptance of the Lord's truth (**Proverbs 16:18-25**).

C. A selfish Bending of the Rules on the Sabbath (vv. 5-6)

- Don't let silence pull my heartstrings when I should've spoken up (**John 8:31-32; James 4:13-17**). Silence is a form of consent. Truth exposes hypocrisy which stems from the heart (**Luke 6:43-45**). The Sabbath was never meant to be a strain to interfere with charity, kindness, and real needs of human nature (**Deuteronomy 22:1-4; 1 John 3:11-24**). Do for others without expectation of something in return.

Note – Sunday School Lessons originate out of the Sunday School Commentary Based on the International Lessons Series
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