

## Healing on the Sabbath – Pt. 2 - May 18, 2022

Jesus healed 7 times on the Sabbath. Looking at last 3 & the confrontations. Jesus challenged beliefs & traditions... His actions need to challenge us.

**4<sup>th</sup> Command** – “6 days you shall labor and do all your work, but the 7th day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work”

Torah: 613 rules & 39 categories of rules define “work”

So many rules, b/c we are always looking for loopholes. Shortcuts.

**1 & 2 (Luke 4:33–41 & Mark 1:21-34)** – Jesus healed man from a demon and then heals Simon’s ma-in-law. Early in ministry, in Capernaum.

**3 (Mark 3:1–6 & Luke 6:6–10)** - Jesus healed man with a deformed hand.

- Pharisees looking for a reason to get Jesus. **Would** he heal-Sabbath?

**4 (Luke 13:10–17)** – Woman who was bent over, couldn’t straighten – 18 yrs.

- Indignant, synagogue leader said: “There are six days for work. Come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

Jesus was exposing stubborn hearts, hypocrite behavior, lines in the sand.

Focused on rules, not God. Missed forest, saw trees.

Pharisees asked: Why did Jesus eat w/ tax collectors/ sinners? **Mt. 9**

Jesus: “It’s not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick... I desire mercy, not sacrifice.” **Get your heart right.** It’s not about rules. Love.

God’s law guides us, but it’s better to focus on the love than rules.

**5 - Luke 14:1–6** – At home of prominent Pharisee w/experts in law; man w/ abnormal swelling of his arms & legs. **Dropsy.** Build-up fluid – heart failure?

- Jesus asks: Is it lawful to heal on Sabbath? They’re silent. He heals.

- Jesus then asks: “If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?”

○ By questioning first, made it hard to protest later.

○ **Jesus sees need & responds.** He’s acting before we ask.

- 6 - John 5:1–18** - near Sheep Gate at pool of Bethesda, Jesus heals invalid.
- Man was crippled, an invalid, for 38 years. **Do you want to get well?**
    - Man was focused on curative power of the water, not Jesus.
      - Some only want to complain. No change.
  - **10** - Jewish leaders say: “It’s Sabbath; law forbids you to carry your mat.”
    - They don’t ask about healing... just who told you to pick it up?
      - **They miss a miracle.** Don’t care. Wrong Focus. Hard hearts.
  - Man later learns it was Jesus who healed him... tells Jewish leaders.
  - **16** – Jewish leaders began to persecute Jesus b/c He healed on Sabbath.
  - **17** - Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.”
    - **God doesn’t take a break.** No holiday. Break time. Vacation.
      - Jesus saw the man, knew his condition. God sees us & knows us. He knows our problems/burdens; wants to make our lives better.
      - **Asks us: want to get well?** Tired of complaining. Alone. Excuses?
      - We can’t fix our lives, but God can. Problems **draw** us to God.
      - Healing comes from Jesus. **To be well...** Peace. Whole.

**7 - John 9** – Jesus heals man born blind. Mud. Wash - pool of Siloam.

Q: “who sinned?” No one. **God’s power seen in Him.**

Pharisees question him & his parents, him again.

They are **divided**. **John 9:16** – Some: “This man isn’t from God, for He doesn’t keep the Sabbath.” Others: “How can a sinner perform such signs?”

Jesus said – **v. 39** - “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

- Some people will deny God, deny miracles, sow doubt.
  - Never satisfied with answers . . . have more questions.
- We come to Jesus in faith. We must believe in Him to truly see.
  - Blind man believed... He washed. He saw. Gained understanding
  - Pharisees had knowledge, but no comprehension.

## Closing Thoughts:

Jesus displayed on Earth who God is in Heaven.

He sees us. He wants to make our lives better.

We have to believe – faith – be willing to take up mat & walk!

We may be called on to defend our faith. We'll be questioned.

Speak up for God. **“For You, God, in 2022”**

- Focus on love. Focus on the words of Jesus. HE made lives better. Are we? Are we uniting? Showing others they're valuable?
  - Drawing together or separating? Love unites. Makes well.

**Song of the week** – “Do You Wanna Be Well?”