

For the Family

Read together Luke 13:10-17

Explain the story: Jesus is teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath. He sees a woman who cannot straighten her back. She has been bent over for 18 years!

He calls her up to where he is teaching and says to her, “You are freed from your disability.” She is instantly healed, stands up straight for the first time in 18 years, and worships God. Talk about how amazing and wonderful it would be for her, and for everybody who saw it happen.

But then the synagogue ruler becomes angry with Jesus. He believed that Jesus had broken God’s rule about not working on the Sabbath. But it was really a rule that people had made up, not God’s rule.

Read Deuteronomy 5:12-15 – The Fourth Commandment

Explain that God commanded the Jews to not work on the Sabbath. They were to rest, and remember that God had delivered them from slavery in Egypt. It was a day to rest and to worship.

The Jewish leaders were so concerned with keeping the Sabbath rule that they made up their own rules about what was not allowed on the Sabbath. One of their rules said that works of healing were not allowed. That’s why the synagogue ruler was mad.

But Jesus said that healing on the Sabbath was a good idea. This woman had been a slave to her disability for 18 years. Now, on this Sabbath day, she was freed from her disability, just like the Jews had been freed from slavery in Egypt.

Explain that Jesus chose compassion over man-made rules.

Pray together that you will always remember to take time to thank God for what he has done for you. Praise him for his mighty works of healing and deliverance.



The Journey of Discipleship
Luke 9-19

A Miracle on the Wrong Day?

Luke 13:10-17

Our Story So Far – Luke 9:51-13:9

- Jesus sets his face to go to Jerusalem and fulfill his mission.
- He sends messengers into Samaria, who are rejected.
- He sends out 72 missionaries, who return with stories of their authority over demons.
- The parable of The Good Samaritan shows that loving your neighbor means being a neighbor to those in need.
- Mary sits at Jesus’ feet like a disciple, showing that loving God includes listening to him.
- Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray.
- After driving out a demon from a mute man, Jesus challenges those who doubt his power or want to see more signs.
- Jesus confronts some Pharisees and lawyers, accusing them of hypocrisy and burdening people with legalism.
- Jesus warns his disciples against hypocrisy. He exhorts them to acknowledge him before others, and promises the Holy Spirit will help them face persecution.
- Jesus warns his disciples against greed or worry.
- Jesus warns his disciples to be always watchful and prepared for his return, even if it seems delayed. He tells them to settle their accounts, before it is too late.

Last Week: Jesus tells the crowd to not judge others when they go through tragedy. Instead, he tells them to repent before they experience tragedy themselves.

This Week’s Story: Luke 13:10-17
Jesus Heals a Woman on the Sabbath

Read Luke 13:10-17 (or Tell the Story)

Review the Story

| | |
|--|-------|
| What is the setting? | 10 |
| What is the initial situation? | 11 |
| What does Jesus say and do? | 12-13 |
| What happens to the woman? | 13 |
| How does she respond? | 13 |
| What is the reaction of the synagogue ruler? | 14 |
| What does Jesus say in response to him? | 15-16 |
| What is the result of all this? | 17 |

Reflect on the Story

What is the significance of the setting of this story?

How does the fact that this happens in a synagogue affect Jesus?

The Woman?

The Synagogue Ruler?

Why does Jesus take the initiative?

Why doesn't Jesus wait until the next day?

If you were a Jew and had lived then, do you think you would have been on the side of Jesus or the synagogue ruler? Why?

When have you felt the tension between obeying religious principles and doing something to help people?

How did you respond?

The Real Intent of the Sabbath

Read Exodus 20:8-11

What is the reason given here for doing no work on the Sabbath?

Read Deuteronomy 5:12-15

What is an additional reason given here?

How is the Sabbath made "holy"?

How would you describe the intent of the Sabbath?

How does that inform what Jesus does and says in our story?

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The Lord of the Sabbath

Read Luke 6:1-11

What is the main issue here for the Pharisees? For Jesus?

What does Jesus say concerning the Sabbath? 5,9

Why do you think Jesus deliberately provokes the Pharisees by healing on the Sabbath?

Why didn't he just wait a day so he wouldn't offend them?

How does this inform what Jesus does and says in our story?

The Mission of Jesus

Read Luke 4:16-21

Notice the setting: What is significant about the time, place, and posture of Jesus before he reads the scroll?

After he reads the scroll?

What is the five-fold mission of Jesus, according to the passage he read from Isaiah?

How did Jesus demonstrate his mission in the healing of the woman in our story?

Notice Jesus' words to her: "You are *freed* from your disability."

Now put everything together: How does the real intent of the Sabbath, the fact that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, and the mission of Jesus all work together to lay the groundwork for why Jesus heals this woman in the synagogue on the Sabbath?

What do we learn about Jesus from this story?

Next Steps:

- I will avoid legalism and hypocrisy in my life (14-15).
- I will rejoice in Jesus and his love for me (13, 17).
- I will develop a heart of compassion for people.
- I will demonstrate God's grace and mercy to others this week by _____.

Memory Verse - Luke 13:12-13

When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your disability." And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God.

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