

*Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way*

June 3, 2018

Second Sunday of Pentecost

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Psalms 81:1-10 (1)

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Mark 2:23-3:6



Jesus and the Sabbath. *Object: None.*

There was a group of religious leaders called the Pharisees who were keepers of the law of Moses. They believed that keeping the law was everything, and that their own understanding and teaching about the law was the only correct teaching. Jesus was quite often opposed by the Pharisees and was accused of breaking the law of Moses, especially the law regarding the Sabbath. Today's lesson tells us about two times that the Pharisees accused Jesus and his followers of violating the Sabbath.

One Sabbath day, Jesus and his disciples were walking through some fields of grain. His disciples were hungry and began to break off some heads of grain to eat. The Pharisees saw it and said to Jesus, "Look, why are they breaking the law by harvesting grain on the Sabbath?"

Realizing the foolishness of the Pharisees to compare breaking off a few heads of grain to eat with harvesting the whole crop, Jesus answered them, "Haven't you read in the Scriptures what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He went into the house of God and broke the law by eating the sacred loaves of bread that only the priests were allowed to eat. He also shared it with his companions."

Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath."

Another time, Jesus went into the synagogue and noticed that there was a man who had a deformed hand. Since it was the Sabbath, they watched to see if he would heal the man on the Sabbath. If so, they would accuse Jesus of working on the Sabbath.

Jesus said to the man with the deformed hand, "Come and stand in front of everyone." Then he turned toward his enemies and asked, "Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil?" The Pharisees refused to answer him.

Jesus looked at them angrily and was saddened at the hardness of their hearts. Then he said to the man, "Hold out your hand." He held out his hand and Jesus healed him. Immediately they left to go and meet with Herod to plot how to kill Jesus.

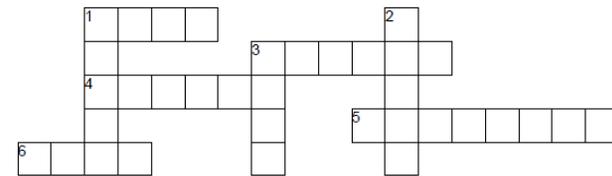
Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia. (John 17:7)

One of the ten commandments says, "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy", but can you imagine a law where you could not do good things because it was the Sabbath? Surely that was not what God meant.

Dear Father, help us to be faithful in following the teachings we find in your Word, and to follow the example of Jesus in loving and caring for others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- The opposite of bad or evil.
- Feel the need to eat
- To charge with a fault; to blame; to censure.
- A day of rest and worship
- The part of the body at the end of the arm

DOWN

- The fruit of certain grasses which furnish the food of man, as corn, wheat, rye, oats, etc.
- An article of food made from flour or meal by moistening, kneading, and baking.
- To cure, to make well

ACCUSE
SABBATH

HEAL
GRAIN

GOOD
HUNGRY

BREAD
HAND

BAND-AID PERSON CARD: The child can make a card to encourage someone. The card can have stenciled hearts or heart stickers on the front, as well as a "BAND-AID PERSON". The band-aid will be the body of the person, with a face drawn on it, as well as drawing arms and legs. Make sure the BAND-AID PERSON is wearing a smile. Inside the card, the child can draw, use happy stickers, or write a verse or some words to show that they care for someone that they will give the card to. Talk about how Jesus cared for the man with the withered hand in today's lesson.



JESUS HEALS A GRIPPLED HAND



Then he turned to his critics and asked, “Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil? Is this a day to save life or to destroy it?” But they wouldn’t answer him. He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts. Then he said to the man, “Hold out your hand.” So the man held out his hand, and it was restored!

Mark 3:4-5 (NLT)