

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Psalm 81:1-10

Raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob. (v1)

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

Mark 2:23--3:6

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself & nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth & love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Mark 2:23--3:6

One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; & as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he & his companions were hungry & in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, & ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, & he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, & not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath." ^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, & a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart & said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, & his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out & immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Notice that God's Word (*Genesis 2:2-3*) makes the Sabbath holy, not human actions/observances. Additionally, it becomes a memorial for God's mighty acts (*Deuteronomy 5:15*). How does *3:1-6* demonstrate this? How does weekly Sunday worship do this?
2. How do *vv25-28* preview & connect with what Jesus says later in *10:35-37*? What is Jesus saying about himself? See *1:21-27, 15:37-39* for a hint

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Review the story of Mary & Martha (*Luke 10:38-42*); how does it inform our Christian sabbath keeping? See *Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2; Hebrews 10:24-25*
4. Read the Small & Large Catechisms' explanations of the Third Commandment. What stands out to you? What "convicts" you? What encouragement do you find? How can you be more observant of Sabbath time? By the way, weekly (Sunday) worship is the normative way we attend to the Word. SC & LC available bookofconcord.org

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. A friend says to you, "I am a believer, but I don't bother with church. I can love God just as well at the golf course/boat/camp house/RV/grandkid's event etc." With the SC & LC in mind, how do you respond? See *Romans 10:13-17; 1 Corinthians 2:1-13; Hebrews 4:1-16, 10:25*
6. How would honoring the sabbath day be beneficial for society? Note: it's not about commerce, labor, alcohol, or "blue laws"; think about our always-on, on-demand, on-call, 24/7, connected, social media setting. See SC & LC, 3rd Commandment; Matthew 12:1-14; Mark 2:23-28, 3:1-6; Luke 6:1-11; 13:10-17

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

06.16.24

Series: Jesus Is Lord over All

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Each miracle reveals an aspect of his authority

Sabbath

The Sabbath sustains life, not prevents life

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: The sabbath was made for humankind, & not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath. (*vv27b-28*)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. (*James 1:21*)

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