

Home Community Study & Discussion

Week of November 17, 2013

Read through Mark 2:23 – 3:6



Questions About the Text Following Up on the Sermon

- Read Exodus 20:10; Exo 31:15; Deuteronomy 23:24-25. Discuss why you think the Pharisees were so critical of Jesus' disciples? Were they right about the Law? What would you have said to Jesus' disciples?
- Read 1 Samuel 21:1-7 and 1 Samuel 22:9-21. Notice that Abiathar is not mentioned in the story until 1 Samuel 22:20. Yet Jesus, in Mark 2:26 says this happened “in the time of Abiathar...”. Discuss why Jesus might have called attention to Abiathar instead of his father Ahimelech.
- Read Exodus 20:8-11, and Hebrews 4:9-10. In the sermon, Joe said, “The Sabbath is a day, given by God, to rest from our work and remember what God has done for us...that we are saved by God's grace and not by our works.” How is this view different from what you thought Sunday / Sabbath was for?

Questions From the Text Not Addressed by the Sermon

- Read Mark 3:4. Jesus asks these legal experts a fundamentally important question. It's about what the Old Testament Law is for. How do you think His critics should have answered the question? Why?
- Look ahead to Mark 12:28-34. Talk about how Jesus could sum up the whole Law in the two commandments in verses 30 and 31?

In What Ways Does God Reveal Himself in this Passage? What Do We Learn About God Here?

- What does it say about Jesus that He says, “The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath”? (Mark 2:28)

What Ethical Questions Does this Passage Raise? Right vs. Wrong? Moral vs. Immoral?

- Why do you think the Bible nowhere condemns David for eating the holy bread (1 Sam 21:1-6), even though it was against the Law (Mark 2:26; c.f. Leviticus 24:5-9)

In What Ways Do You See the Gospel Foreshadowed in this Text? Does it teach us about God's Holiness? Does it teach us about sin? Does it teach us about repentance? Does it teach us about God's grace?

- Read Mark 3:5-6. Mark shows people responding to Jesus in one of two ways here: 1) the man with the withered hand. 2) The Pharisees and the Herodians. Why do you think Mark closes this portion of his book like this? What should we learn from this?

How does this passage help us grow in our love for and trust in Jesus?