



“Go make disciples...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt 28:19-20)

Word Wednesday Lesson 16 – Shabbat *Matthew 12:1-14 (Mark 2:23-3:6, Luke 6:1-11)*

- **Shabbat means rest from *Melacha*, creative work:**
 - **Exodus 20:8-11** “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. “For six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the LORD your God; on it, you **shall not do any creative work**, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male slave or your female slave, or your cattle, or your resident who stays with you. “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and everything that is in them, and He rested on the seventh day; for that reason, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.”
 - **Genesis 2:2** By the seventh day God **completed His creative work** which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.
 - **Exodus 31:15** ‘For **six days creative work may be done**, but on the seventh day there is a **Sabbath of complete rest, holy to the LORD**.
- Whenever a positive “DO” command conflicts with a negative “Do not” command, the positive one supersedes.
 - Thus temple work and circumcisions continue on Shabbat (Lev 24:8, Num 28:10, Lev 12:3).
 - ***Pikkuach nefesh* - saving a life** overrides any other religious rule (Lev 18:5, Eze 20:11).
 - Showing kindness to animals is a biblical law: Deuteronomy 22:4 “You shall not see your countryman’s donkey or his ox fallen down on the road, and avoid them; you shall certainly help him raise them up.”
- **Isaiah 58:13-14** “If, because of the Sabbath, you restrain your foot From doing as you wish on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a pleasure, and the holy day of the LORD honorable, And honor it, desisting from your own ways, From seeking your own pleasure And speaking your own word, Then you will take delight in the LORD, And I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; And I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Memory Verse #16: Mark 2:27 - Shabbat was made for _____, and not _____ for Shabbat.

Walking in His Dust (Luke 5:8): Talmidim prioritize _____. James 4:17 So for one who knows the _____ to do and does not do it, for him it is _____.

Lesson notes & questions:

Lesson Reflections (review before Apply nights):

- What is at least one new thing I learned about loving God or my neighbor?
- Which topics would I like to know more about or need clarification?
- How does the Holy Spirit want me to apply the lesson’s Scripture to my discipleship?



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APPLY!

- Share your “Lesson Reflections” responses with the group.
- **Read the verses from Exodus and Genesis on page 1.** Why does God take Shabbat so seriously?
- **Read Matthew 12-1-2 and Exodus 34:21.**
 - What does verse one suggest about Jesus’ poverty (compare Matthew 8:20)?
 - Do the Pharisees have a legitimate claim in verse two? Why or why not?
 - The disciples were under a microscope because of their association with Jesus. The same is true for disciples today. By your actions, do you welcome this scrutiny, or do you do things to avoid it?
- **Read Matthew 12-3-4.**
 - How does Jesus answer the claim? Does he insist they had not broken the Sabbath or were not really “harvesting”?
 - What is Jesus’ point in bringing up this story about David and the Tabernacle showbread?
 - What similarities existed between Jesus and David at this point in his life?
- **Read Matthew 12:5-7 and Numbers 28:9-10.** What is Jesus’ point in bringing up this story about the temple work continuing on the Sabbath?
- **Read Matthew 12:8 and Mark 2:27.** Is the Sabbath good or bad? What are the implications of your answer?
- **Read Matthew 12:9-13.** In what ways are we like this group of Pharisees, focused on the letter of the law, procedure, or custom while forgetting about human compassion?
- **Read Matthew 12:14 and John 9:16.**
 - What does the second group of Pharisees in the John passage call someone who does not keep the Sabbath?
 - By this definition, could Jesus be a Sabbath breaker?
- **Read Isaiah 58:13-14.** What is the ultimate point of the Sabbath?
- What overall reactions do you have to the Matthew 12 passage as it applies to your discipleship walk with Jesus?

GO!

What is God saying to you, and how are you responding?

What is something you are excited about right now?

What is a big challenge you are facing right now?

Who is on your heart right now and why?

Review the last lesson’s GO section. What prayers has God answered?

Pray for one another!