

Lord of the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1-14

Key Verse: 7-8

1. Why did the Pharisees think what the disciples were doing “unlawful”? (1-2; Deut 23:25) How did Jesus defend his disciples? (3-5) What do we learn from these examples? How did this apply to them? What are the dangers of legalism?
2. How is Jesus greater than the temple? (6) What do the words mean “I desire mercy, not sacrifice”? (7; Hos 6:6) How do we practice “sacrifice”? How should we practice “mercy”? How is Jesus the “Lord of the Sabbath”?
3. How did the religious leaders try to trap Jesus? (9-10) How did Jesus show it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath? (11-12) What is the intent of the Sabbath? (Gen 2:2; Exo 20:8-11) What should be our focus on the Sabbath?
4. What did Jesus do for the man? (13) Think about his agonies. How is this an example of showing God’s mercy? Did the Pharisees understand God’s heart? (14)