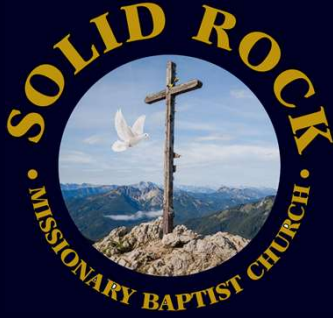
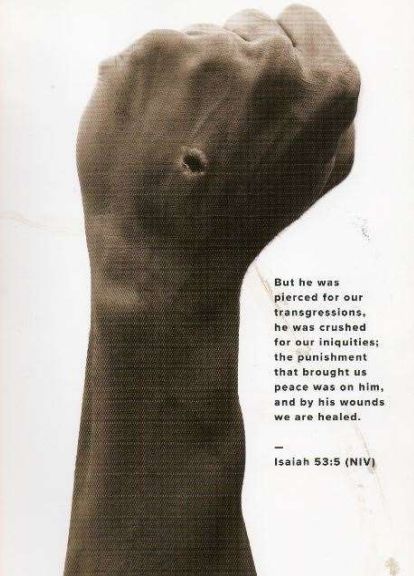


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



SOLID ROCK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**TRUTH, JUSTICE,
AND POWER** THE JESUS WAY



But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.
— Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)

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Study Schedule June – July 2020

Date	Topic	Scriptures
6/3/2020	Depend On God	Genesis 39:1- 6, 16 – 23
6/10/2020	Making A Bold Move	Numbers 27:1 – 11
6/17/2020	God's Justice and The Burning Bush	Exodus 3:1 – 10
6/24/2020	Seeking Salvation and Choosing Compassion	Luke 10:25 – 37
7/1/2020	Break	No Study
7/8/2020	Worship Anchors My Soul	John 4:7 – 24
7/15/2020	Share the Good News	Mark 5:1 – 19
7/22/2020	Worship And Justice	Isaiah 58
7/29/2020	Putting People Before Things	Matthew 12:1-21

2

This Week's Lesson – July 29, 2020

Truth, Justice and Power – The Jesus Way

Lesson 8:

Putting People Before Things

Matthew 12:1-21



3

Introduction To The Book Of Matthew

Author: The Apostle Matthew (Levi), the former tax collector.

Date of Writing: probably in A.D. 55-65.

Purpose of Writing: Matthew intends to prove to the Jews that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah.

Practical Application:

- The Gospel of Matthew is an excellent introduction to the core teachings of Christianity.
- Matthew is especially useful for understanding how the life of Christ was/is the fulfillment of the OT prophecies.
- Matthew presents the true nature and identity of God and Jesus Christ to warrant our worship and our obedience.



4

Overview of Matthew 11 – 12



John The Baptist Sends Disciples To Question Jesus



Jesus Defend John And Preaches Woe And Rest



Jesus Confronted By the Pharisees On The Sabbath

5

"Who Were The Pharisees?"

- The word Pharisee comes from a Hebrew word meaning "separated".
- The Pharisees were an influential religious sect within Judaism in the time of Christ and the early church.
- They were known for their emphasis on personal piety and their acceptance of oral tradition in addition to the written Law




6

Read Matthew 12:1-21

7

1. What started the conflict between Jesus and the Pharisees (vv. 1-2)?

- **Interpretations Of God's Law/Word:** Jesus sees the Sabbath (Exodus 20:8-11) as made for man. The Pharisees saw man being made for the Sabbath.
- **Man's Traditions/Additions To God's Law:** The Pharisees created restrictions to "keep" the letter of the law– that Jesus knew doesn't fulfill the Spirit of Law.
- **Position in Upholding God's Law:** The Pharisees disputed their traditions with the Living Word/God's Son.



8

2. How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees (vv. 3-8)?

- **Demonstration From Scripture (vv. 3 – 5)**: Jesus gives the Pharisees OT examples of the righteousness of His actions.
- **Clarification Of Scripture (vv. 6, 8)**: Jesus lets them know that One the OT/Word is about is here and has **the highest authority**.
- **Application Of Scripture (v. 7)**: Jesus challenges the Pharisees on how they should apply the principles of the Law – *“mercy not sacrifice”* (Hosea 6:6).



9

3. What does it mean to “desire mercy, not sacrifice” (v. 7)?

Religious practices must give way to moral, natural and spiritual needs of others to fulfill the greater law of love.

Points to Ponder:

- Ignorance of God’s Word is why we sometimes are overly critical of brothers and sisters in Christ.
- It is not enough for us to know the scriptures, but we must labor to know the meaning of them.
- Ignorance of the meaning of the scripture is especially dangerous in those who take upon them to teach others.



10

4. In verse 9 the scene changes to the synagogue. Why did the rulers ask Jesus if it is lawful to heal on the Sabbath (v. 10)?

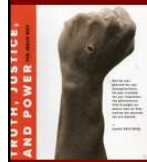
- **Deception** - The enemies of Jesus were always trying to trap him – to see if he would heal on the Sabbath.
- **Discredit** - Here they were trying to catch Jesus in a conflict between His standards of mercy and the Sabbath laws.
- **Discernment (lack of)** – The Pharisees failed to see the need for healing The One that can heal – Jesus.



11

5. What was Jesus implying by saying that any of them would rescue an animal from a pit on the Sabbath (vv. 11-12)?

- **Their Selfishness:** He showed they only care about their power and position.
- **Their Hypocrisy:** They would help an animal while ignoring a person in need.
- **Their Lack Of Compassion:** Showing their more concern for an animal than for a hurting person.
- **They Had No Discernment:** He pointed out their lack of understanding of the meaning of the Sabbath.



12

6. Why do you think Jesus' response so angered the Pharisees (vv. 13-14)?

- They Felt Intimidated By Jesus: The Pharisees were shown to be hypocrites before the people – losing their power.
- They Could Not Impede Jesus: Despite their best (or worst) efforts – they could not stop Jesus mission.
- They Were Influenced By The Enemy Of Jesus (Satan): They were moved by Satan to plot with their enemies (the Herodians) to kill Jesus (Mk. 3:6).



13

7. What is the message of the Isaiah passage quoted in verses 18-21?

“Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles. He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth justice to victory; And in His name Gentiles will trust.” (Isa. 42: 1 – 4)

Note: This passage predicted a Messiah who would bring healing justice to the nation in a way that was not quarrelsome or violent.



14

8. How had Jesus proclaimed justice in that situation?

Definition of Justice/Judgement

Justice/Judgement (Grk. *krísis, kree'-sis*) *decision especially concerning justice and injustice, right and wrong;*

- Proclaiming Right To The Conflicted: Jesus provided clarity on what the Sabbath/Law means.
- Doing Right To The Afflicted: Jesus healed the man – showing that people are more important than things.
- Teaching Right To The Restricted: Jesus showed how the OT demonstrates that He is the Messiah.



15

9. How can God's values reverse this trend and help us live out values that prioritize the well-being of people?

- Spiritual Interpretation: As we properly understand the Word, we will see issues of justice toward people from God's perspective.
- Significant Actions: As we seek to Love God – we will be moved to also love, serve and stand up people.
- Scriptural Reactions: We will allow the Spirit and the Word of God to govern our reactions to the issues of justice today.



16

Keys For Living

- God is displeased when we use religious devotion as an excuse for not seeing to needs of the poor and oppressed.
- God is more concerned about the fulfilment of His Word and for his people to walk in justice, love and mercy than He is with our traditions.
- Jesus sets the example of God's justice, mercy and sacrifice by giving His life on the Cross – while we were still sinners. He calls us to do the same for others.



17



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