

# 'Luke' - Extra Teaching Points #8

## Luke 6:1-19 (NASB95)

### Luke 6:1-5

*"Now it happened that He was passing through some grainfields on a Sabbath; and His disciples were picking the heads of grain, rubbing them in their hands, and eating the grain." <sup>2</sup> But some of the Pharisees said, "Why do you do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" <sup>3</sup> And Jesus answering them said, "**Have you not even read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him, <sup>4</sup> how he entered the house of God, and took and ate the consecrated bread which is not lawful for any to eat except the priests alone, and gave it to his companions?" <sup>5</sup> And He was saying to them, "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."***

Parallel accounts are found in [Matt. 12:1-8](#) and [Mark 2:23-28](#).

**Q: [Deut. 23:25](#) says the disciples were not doing anything against the law by taking the grain and eating it; so why were the Pharisees making a fuss?**

- The problem was 'working on a Sabbath' ([Ex. 31:14](#)).
  - The Jews had tons of traditions about what constituted work (e.g., if you threw a rock in the air and caught it with the same hand, it was work... but catch it with the opposite hand, and it wasn't work).
- Q: What religious rules do you have? How do act/feel when people break them?

**Q: What was the Pharisees real problem?**

- **Because they were focused on the things that could be seen and measured – like rituals and ceremonies – they respected the temple, and saw it as having supreme importance; but failed to recognize that Jesus was greater than the temple.**
  - They were willing to serve the temple, (the system), but not Jesus!
- In [Matt 12:7](#) Jesus quoted [Hosea 6:6](#), "*I desire mercy not sacrifice.*"
  - Sacrifice is ceremonial law, but showing mercy is a moral requirement.
    - **They valued ceremony over morality!**
  - Jesus was saying that doing the *loving* thing is always right; it even trumps ceremonial laws.
    - Feeding servants of God who were hungry was more important than keeping a ceremonial law.

**Q: The NKJV translates [Luke 6:28](#), "*The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath*"... which is how [Mark 2:28](#) records Jesus' statement in all translations. What does it mean that Jesus is "also" Lord of the Sabbath?**

- "**Also** Lord of the Sabbath" means Jesus is Lord of all the other days, as well as the Sabbath!
  - That means the disciples have only one obligation any day of the week: to follow their Lord!
  - Their obligation was not to observe the Sabbath and Moses' Law, but to serve Christ...  
**7 days a week!**

### Luke 6:6-11

*"On another Sabbath He entered the synagogue and was teaching; and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. <sup>7</sup> The scribes and the Pharisees were watching Him closely to see if He healed on the Sabbath, so that they might find reason to accuse Him. <sup>8</sup> But He knew what they were thinking, and He said to the man with the withered hand, "Get up and come forward!" And he got up and came forward. <sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to them, "**I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to destroy it?" <sup>10</sup> After looking around at them all, He said to him, "Stretch out your hand!" And he did so; and his hand was restored. <sup>11</sup> But they themselves were filled with rage, and discussed together what they might do to Jesus.**"*

Almost all the controversies between the Pharisees and Jesus were about the Sabbath.

- That's because Jesus kept deliberately doing things on Saturday – which could've been done on any other day – in order to illustrate that the Sabbath is part of an old order that has past.

### [Luke 6:12-16](#)

*“It was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and **He spent the whole night in prayer to God.** <sup>13</sup> And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as **apostles:** <sup>14</sup> Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew; <sup>15</sup> and Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot; <sup>16</sup> Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.”*

“Apostles” means “one who is sent.”

[Mark 3:13-15](#) gives us more information about what they were selected to do.

- Mark explains that Jesus chose them to:
  - **Be with Him**
    - Not everyone could be with Jesus all the time.
    - Jesus had friends, best friends, and acquaintances.
      - Among the 12 apostles, three of them (Peter, James, and John) were closer than the others.
      - And of the 3, John was referred to as the disciple whom Jesus loved.
  - **Preach**
  - **Have authority to cast out demons.**
    - This brings out the notion of mission, and the centrality of preaching in their function.

Jesus called a couple of sets of brothers to be apostles.

- Peter and Andrew
- James and John

James and John might have been first cousins to Jesus.

- Their mother Salomé, might have been Mary's sister.
  - [Mark 16:1](#) and [Matt. 27:56](#) are parallel verses.
  - [Mark 16:1](#) names Salomé, and [Matt 27:56](#) says Mary's Sister.
  - If this is accurate, then in [John 19:25](#) Jesus would have been asking His cousin John to take care of his aunt Mary.

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## Extra Info on Apostles:

### Q: Are there apostles today?

- The Bible speaks of 3 different types of apostles:
  - Jesus was THE Apostle of God ([Heb 3:1](#))
    - Since Jesus is THE Apostle of God, there is no reason to think anyone else could claim that type of apostleship.
  - The apostle of Jesus ([Luke 6:13-16](#))
    - To be an apostle of Jesus, you had to be a witness of His resurrection ([Luke 24:46-48](#); [Acts 1:22](#); [1Cor 9:1](#))
    - To be an apostle of Jesus, you had to be there to lay the foundation of the Church ([Eph 2:19-22](#)).
    - To be an apostle of Jesus, you had to be able to display the signs, wonders, and mighty deeds of an apostle ([1Cor 12:11-12](#); [Matt 10:1-2](#); [Mark 16:20](#); [Acts 2:43, 5:12](#)).

- Apostles of the church ([2Cor 8:23](#))
    - The Greek word “*apostolos*” is usually translated “*apostle*”, but most translation use the word “*messengers*” in this verse.
    - Today we usually call messengers of the church, ‘missionaries’.
  - While the Bible does not tell us explicitly that there are no more apostles of Jesus today, it seems highly unlikely.
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**Q: Jesus would often spend time alone in prayer; but before He selected His apostles, He spent the whole night in prayer. Why might this be?**

- Jesus only spent a couple of years leading the most important movement in history, and then He handed it over to these men. **It was important to get the right men.**
  - The diversity in this group shows that they were not selected based on outward appearances or their credentials.

### **Luke 6:17-19**

*“Jesus came down with them and **stood on a level place**; and there was a large crowd of His disciples, and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon,<sup>18</sup> who had come to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were being cured.<sup>19</sup> And all the people were trying to touch Him, **for power was coming from Him and healing them all.**”*

**Vs 17** This is often known as the “Sermon on the plain.”

- Matthew records the “Sermon on the Mount”, which may or may not be the same sermon.
- There are similarities that make it seem like the same sermon, but the differences would have to be explained.

**Vs 19** Touching Jesus and being healed was not just something the woman with the issue of blood did ([Luke 8:43-48](#)).

- [Matt 14:35-36](#) gives a more generic statement about this.
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## **Follow Up Assignment**

Q: The Pharisees were focused on the things that could be seen and measured (like rituals and ceremonies). They were willing to serve the temple (the system), but not Jesus! Which are you really more loyal to: the system... or Jesus?

- How do you respond to people who break one of your traditions as they try to serve Jesus?

Q: Jesus said He was “also Lord of the Sabbath”... meaning He is Lord of every day of the week. Do you serve Jesus every day with equal devotion, or do you only give Him your service on some days or Sundays?

- The disciples of the Pharisees only devoted themselves completely to God one day a week, while Jesus’ disciples were completely devoted every day. Based on your answer above, whose disciple do you look more like: Jesus’ disciples... or the Pharisees’ disciples?

Q: Jesus prayed all night before selecting His apostles. According to [John 17:20](#); and [Romans 8:34](#) Jesus is praying for us full time right now! What does this tell you about how important you are to Him and His mission?