

# Sunday Sermon Summary – Luke 6:1-11

## Overview

This sermon explores Jesus' authority as "Lord of the Sabbath" through Luke 6, drawing connections to Old Testament law, the story of David, and the Christian's relationship to God's rest. The message emphasizes walking by the Spirit rather than strict adherence to the law.

### Core Scripture:

- Luke 6:1-11 (Jesus and the Sabbath; disciples plucking grain; healing on the Sabbath)
- 1 Samuel 20-21 (David eating the showbread)
- Leviticus 22:10-16 (Law regarding holy bread)
- Hebrews 3-4 (Entering God's rest)

## Announcements

- **Language Interpretation:** Available for all languages via phone.
- **Home Groups:**
  - Sunday night: Prescott & Walla Walla
  - Thursday, 6:30pm: Double Michelle's, College Place
- **Wednesday Night Service:** Ongoing study in Colossians, led by Tom & Jen.

## Opening Prayer

- Thanksgiving for God's Word and the beauty of spring.
- Request for illumination and deeper understanding of Jesus and ourselves.

## Context & Background

- **Luke's Gospel:** Unique as the only Gospel written by a Gentile. Luke, a companion of Paul, highlights Jesus' ministry to Gentiles and the issue of Gentile believers' relationship to Jewish law.
- **Acts Connection:** Luke also authored Acts, documenting the church's decision (Acts 15) that Gentile believers aren't required to follow the Mosaic law, except for a few essentials.

# Teaching: Jesus, Lord of the Sabbath

## The Sabbath Controversy (Luke 6:1-5)

- **Event:** Jesus' disciples pluck and eat grain on the Sabbath, which Pharisees challenge as unlawful "work."
- **Cultural Note:** Deuteronomy 23 allows eating from fields in passing, as long as it's not harvesting.
- **Jesus' Response:** References David eating the consecrated bread (1 Sam 21) in a time of need, which was technically unlawful but permitted by the high priest due to mercy and necessity.

## Understanding "Lord of the Sabbath"

- **Meaning:** "Lord" here means the one with authority to interpret and apply the law.
- **Jesus' Claim:** As the Son of Man, Jesus asserts His authority to determine what is appropriate on the Sabbath—He is present and can make the call, just as the high priest did for David.
- **Application:** When Jesus is present, His guidance supersedes the letter of the law. The Spirit leads believers in real time, not just written rules.

## Sabbath Laws & Traditions

- **Jewish Practice:** Multiple types of Sabbaths (weekly, new moon, festival). Complex rules led to elaborate traditions (e.g., Sabbath elevators, food prep).
- **Principle:** The Sabbath was made for rest and mercy, not for burdensome rule-keeping.

## Healing on the Sabbath (Luke 6:6-11)

- **Event:** Jesus heals a man's withered hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath.
- **Question:** "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?"
- **Point:** Acts of mercy and restoration fulfill the Sabbath's true intent. Jesus demonstrates His authority by healing, while the Pharisees respond with plotting, missing the heart of the law.

## The Deeper Rest: Hebrews 3–4

- **True Rest:** The Sabbath points to a deeper rest—trusting in God's finished work, not striving to earn His favor.
- **Warning:** Like Israel in the wilderness, unbelief and striving can keep us from entering God's rest.

- **Invitation:** Believers are called to cease striving for righteousness and instead rest in Christ's completed work, approaching God's throne with confidence.

## Key Applications

- **Walking by the Spirit:** Our relationship with God is guided by the presence and voice of Jesus through the Holy Spirit, not just by rules.
- **Law & Grace:** The law's purpose is fulfilled in Christ. Believers are not bound to the letter but are led by the Spirit into true rest and obedience.
- **Mercy Over Sacrifice:** Acts of compassion and need supersede ritual observance.

## Closing Prayer

- Thanksgiving for God's Word and the Gospel's clarity.
- Request for sensitivity to the Spirit's voice and confidence in God's grace.
- Blessing over fellowship and community time.

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### Summary:

Jesus, as Lord of the Sabbath, invites us to a life led by His Spirit—one marked by rest, mercy, and confidence in His finished work, rather than anxious striving to keep the law. Our obedience flows from relationship, not regulation.