



The Man Who is God – Luke 6:1-11

In this message we watch as Jesus confronts those who knew the Scriptures inside out but had missed the heart of God. The Sabbath, a gift meant to reveal God's mercy and invite his people into rest, had become another burden to carry and another weapon to judge others with.

As Jesus announces himself as Lord of the Sabbath—worn sinners are invited to enter into God's endless Shabbat Shalom through his life, death, and resurrection. Lewis Roderick concludes our [Liberty for the Captives](#) with this message from Luke 6: 1 - 11.

For personal reflection/ community discussion:

1. Jesus exposes the difference between knowing God's Word and knowing God's heart. Where are you most tempted to use Scripture to measure or judge others rather than allowing it to search your own heart?

The Pharisees were in God's word every single day. It should have made them the most gracious, merciful, approachable people alive. Instead, it made them harder. The warning is for all of us: it's possible to be deeply immersed in Scripture and completely miss its heart. When did something you read last stop you in your tracks about yourself — not someone else?

2. The Pharisees had become experts in God's law but strangers to God's mercy. What practices or rhythms help you stay soft and attentive to the grace you've received, rather than drifting into performance or self-righteousness?

3. Jesus declares himself to be the Lord of the Sabbath and restores the man with the withered hand. Where in your life do you feel weary, diminished, or “withered”? What might it look like to let Jesus meet you there instead of trying to fix yourself?

4. The sermon ended with the reminder, *“This ends so well.”* How does the promise that Jesus will one day make all things new reshape the way you face disappointment, suffering, or uncertainty today? Where do you need to hold onto that hope this week?

Dostoevsky imagined a moment of eternal harmony where every wound is healed and every wrong is made right. The man with the withered hand is Luke’s glimpse of that day — the Lord of the Sabbath unwithering what was ruined. In the middle of whatever you’re carrying right now, what would it take for that future to feel more real than your present circumstances?

“I believe like a child that suffering will be healed and made up for, that all the humiliating absurdity of human contradictions will vanish like a pitiful mirage... that in the world’s finale, at the moment of eternal harmony, something so precious will come to pass that it will suffice for all hearts, for the comforting of all resentments, for the atonement of all the crimes of humanity, for all the blood that they’ve shed...”

Fyodor Dostoevsky, The Brothers Karamasov (edited)