



***The Way of the  
Kingdom***

**“NOT ON THE SABBATH!”**

**Luke 13:10-21**

# Introduction

- Let's get right into the passage!

# Healing on the Sabbath: The Crippled Woman

- Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath
  - synagogue and the Sabbath are contentious notions
- Luke 6 - healing a man with a withered hand. The Pharisees were “filled with fury”
- Luke 12 - a place of trial
  - *“when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”*
- something significant is going to happen

# The Crippled Woman

- She was bent over and could not straighten up at all
- About Dan's Dad
  - Similar Condition (Rheumatoid Arthritis)
  - Painful
- Low position in society
- Crippled by a Spirit - physiological and cosmological
- Margins of Society

# The Crippled Woman

- Jesus saw her (v.12)
- People who are invisible to others are never hidden from our Lord.
- He Called her forward
- Set free - like a prisoner
- “straightening up fully” (v. 13)

# The Crippled Woman

- Body Trapped - Jesus liberates her body
- Jesus liberates her from the spirit afflicting her body as well
- Released to stand up tall and praise God

# Jesus and the "Release" motif of Luke

- Themes in Luke
  - The Son of Mary will cause division
  - Release and Liberation
- Luke 4:
  - <sup>18</sup> *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,*  
<sup>19</sup> *to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”*
- “That’s today.” “That’s me.” “That’s right now.”

# Healing on the Sabbath

## The Synagogue Leader's Response

- Not on the Sabbath!
  - *<sup>13</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>14</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.*
- An appeal to scripture
  - You want to heal? Heal. Just don't do it on the Sabbath.

# "You Hypocrites!"

- Synagogue leader and his cohorts - hypocrites
- claim to be teachers of the scripture but don't understand scripture
- Deut: people don't work, but neither do the livestock
- Joel Green:
  - If an animal, how much more a daughter of Abraham?
  - If one whom you have found for a few hours, how much more one whom Satan has bound for eighteen years?
  - If you can loose the bonds of an animal on the Sabbath as well as the other six days of the week, how much more is it necessary for God to loose this woman's bond on the Sabbath?
- Not God's mission - release people from bondage
- And they were humiliated, and the people were delighted

# The Mustard Seed and the the Leaven

- two seemingly ordinary things



# The Mustard Seed and the Leaven

- two seemingly ordinary things
- Mustard Seed
- Birds come down and land on it, eat seeds
- Yeast or Leaven
- Bread for 150 people
- "Jesus and God Planning the World"

# The Mustard Seed and the Leaven

- Creator of nature starts making illustrations about nature - listen
- Dan's family and mustard



# The Mustard Seed and the Leaven

- Creator of nature starts making illustrations about nature - listen
- Dan's family and mustard
- Utterly and totally life-changing
- All started with a few grains of mustard

# The Mustard Seed and the Leaven

- Message – The Kingdom of God is pervasive and ever expanding
- It will grow; It will expand
- (not the news the rulers wanted to hear)

(not this)

FROM A MUSTARD  
SEED...







# The Mustard Seed and the Leaven

- Not powerful or flashy, humble - pungent
- This is the way of Jesus and His Kingdom



I HAVE A  
MUSTARD SEED,  
AND I'M NOT  
AFRAID TO USE IT!

# Three Things

- Like in the life of the cripple woman the power of God continues to work to set people free and transform lives
  - it really does
- Like the mustard seed and the leaven, the Kingdom of God is ever present and always expanding, changing us and the world
  - at work in us and around us now
- Like the synagogue ruler, there will always be people who resist Jesus mission by saying, “not on the Sabbath” or its equivalent
  - those people are hypocrites...

**END of SLIDES**