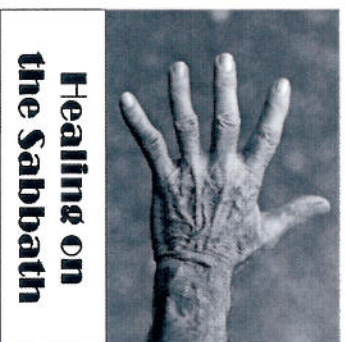


God's StoryTM

Our Story

January 29, 2017



Devotion: Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone or with others; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Almighty God,

Your ways are higher and better than ours. Point our hearts toward you, that the compassion of Jesus would always be our goal. In his name, Amen.

Reflect: Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

Then he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath." Luke 6:5

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

And so it begins: Jesus' ongoing quarrel with the Pharisees, expert keepers of the law. What could be more frustrating than a wildly popular evangelist with a habit of making his own rules in the service of ultimate love?

Consider: Consider this theme for the week's text.

The Sabbath was made for the wellness of humanity.

Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday: *Healing on the Sabbath*, Luke 6:1-16

Monday: *Jesus Teaches and Heals*, Luke 6:17-26

Tuesday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:27-30

Wednesday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:31-38

Thursday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:39-42

Friday: *A Tree and Its Fruit*, Luke 6:43-49

Saturday: *Jesus Speaks in Parables*, Luke 8:1-3

How does Jesus model love for enemies?

Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What laws in your community have been created to serve people?

What laws have been created for people to serve? Where are freedoms limited and where are they granted? What might you do to ensure freedom to all?

When and for what have you been forgiven? Was forgiveness offered unconditionally or with limitations? Have you let go of the burden of guilt or shame? How might you let go of shame and live in the unconditional forgiveness of Jesus?

DO: By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Pray for an enemy every day this week – not that they become better people – pray that God will bless them. At the end of the week, notice how, if at all, your attitude toward them has changed.

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

Love your enemies. Let your enemies love you. Amen.