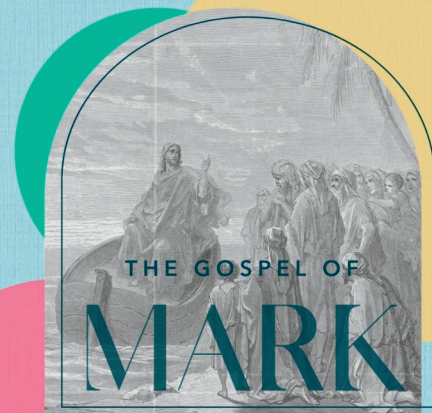


August 13, 2023

# LORD OF THE SABBATH

Pastor Jason Uptmore // Mark 2:23-3:12



## PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



23 And it happened that He was passing through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads of grain. 24 The Pharisees were saying to Him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" 25 And He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and he and his companions became hungry; 26 how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which is not lawful for anyone to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who were with him?" 27 Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

3 He entered again into a synagogue; and a man was there whose hand was withered. 2 They were watching Him to see if He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. 3 He said to the man with the withered hand, "Get up and come forward!" 4 And He said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to kill?" But they kept silent. 5 After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored. 6 The Pharisees went out and immediately began conspiring with the Herodians against Him, as to how they might destroy Him. 7 Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and also from Judea, 8 and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him. 9 And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd, so that they would not crowd Him; 10 for He had healed many, with the result that all those who had afflictions pressed around Him in order to touch Him. 11 Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, "You are the Son of God!" 12 And He earnestly warned them not to tell who He was.



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# GROW IN THE WORD

- What do you learn about the heart of God from these two stories? Consider also Hosea 6:6; Micah 6:6-8; 2 Chronicles 30:18-20.

- How can you avoid falling into a legalistic mindset in your own faith journey and instead prioritize acts of love, compassion, and practical help for others?

**02. Jesus withdrew to the sea but he was followed by a large crowd that had gathered together from various regions all throughout the surrounding area. The crowd pursued Jesus and sought healing from him. Jesus sought refuge on a boat in the sea and instructed unclean spirits to conceal his identity (3:7-12).**

- Why do you think Jesus asked his disciples for a boat in verse 9? Can you relate to what he might have felt?



# GROW IN THE WORD

- How would you describe the multitudes of people that followed Jesus? Consider where they came from and what they sought.

- In what ways can you imitate the crowd's persistence and faith to pursue Jesus? See Hebrews 11:6; James 4:8.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### TOWN HALL MEETING

August 20 | 3 pm | Worship Center

Members and non-members are invited to join us as we review the past year, the 2023-24 budget, elder nominations, proposed changes to the Constitution & Bylaws, and provide an update on Stone Oak/C3.

### CHURCH-WIDE WORSHIP NIGHT

September 6 | 7 - 8 pm | Worship Center

We believe worship is vital to our walk with Jesus. We have set aside time to gather corporately for a time to worship and fix our eyes on Jesus as we begin the fall semester. Learn more online.