

# "LORD OF THE SABBATH"

Matthew 12:1-8

**Main Idea:** Since Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, He determines the rules for how it is to be observed.

## **The disciples' controversial Sabbath snack (1)**

## **The Pharisees' serious allegation (2)**

Their motivation

Their interpretations of Sabbath keeping

Their rationale for the disciples' "infraction"

## **Jesus' defense of His disciples**

His appeal to Scripture, not tradition (3-5)

David's "violation" of the law (3-4)

He and his men were also hungry

He was not condemned

Priests' "violation" of the law (5)

They *must* "work" on the Sabbath

They are not condemned for it

His argument from the lesser to the greater (6)

God sending Jesus is greater than God setting up the Temple

(Jesus is greater than David)

His interpretation of the Law - mercy is better than sacrifice (7)

His declaration of authority over the Sabbath (8)

# Family Life Groups

## “Lord of the Sabbath”

Matthew 12:1-8

**Main Idea:** Since Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, He determines the rules for how it is to be observed.

- 1) After the Pharisees accused the disciples of doing what was “unlawful” on the Sabbath, Jesus defended their actions by citing Scripture (rather than by appealing to tradition or contemporary interpretations or by making a theological argument). Why is this important? How can we, like Jesus, use Scripture in an appropriate, constructive way in our conversations with those who accuse or criticize us? How is Scripture used in an inappropriate, destructive way?
- 2) Jesus’ interpretation of what is appropriate behavior on the Sabbath was based on God’s purpose for creating the Sabbath - a day of rest, refreshment, and replenishment. Is this still a mandate for the Christian community? Why or why not?
- 3) Do you observe a day of rest each week? Why or why not? If you do, what are the benefits and blessings from doing so?

Questions? Contact Pastor Stan at [stan@ebcsalem.com](mailto:stan@ebcsalem.com)