

LIFE Group Sermon Questions

The Center of Everything: Corrected

Pastor Josh Parsons

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Luke 6:1-11



THE ORCHARD

Luke 6:1-11

“On a Sabbath, while he was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked and ate some heads of grain, rubbing them in their hands. 2 But some of the Pharisees said, ‘Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?’ 3 And Jesus answered them, ‘Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: 4 how he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those with him?’ 5 And he said to them, ‘The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.’

6 On another Sabbath, he entered the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was withered. 7 And the scribes and the Pharisees watched him, to see whether he would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find a reason to accuse him. 8 But he knew their thoughts, and he said to the man with the withered hand, ‘Come and stand here.’ And he rose and stood there. 9 And Jesus said to them, ‘I ask you, is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to destroy it?’ 10 And after looking around at them all he said to him, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ And he did so, and his hand was restored. 11 But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.”

Sermon Outline

How to Be a Pharisee:

1. Put second things first (Luke 6:1-2)
2. Ignore the truths you don’t like (Luke 6:3-4)
3. Resist the rule of Christ (Luke 6:5)
4. Hunt for people’s faults (Luke 6:6-7)
5. Harden your heart (Luke 6:8-10)
6. Overlook your sins (Luke 6:11)

Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn’t know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?

2. From what you know of them, how would you describe the Pharisees? What can we commend about their zeal for obeying God? What should we avoid in how they obeyed God?

3. The Pharisees were notorious for creating “fence laws”, laws that weren’t in the Bible but, if kept, ensured a person didn’t break the laws that *were* in the Bible. When might it be the better part of wisdom to establish “helps” like those? What benefits might they bring? What dangers should we be aware of?

4. Why do we tend to think our relationship with God is *good* based on what we do or what others think? What is the danger in thinking this way?
5. In what ways have you elevated your personal preferences and convictions to the level of God's commands? How can we *hold* to those preferences and convictions without becoming like the Pharisees (e.g. condemning others for not thinking the same)?
6. Which truths in the Bible are hard for you to get behind? Why? What would it look like for you to believe and hold to them anyway?
7. What are some examples of resisting the lordship of Jesus?
8. Who is someone you could encourage this week (rather than dig around for faults)? What specific way could you encourage them?
9. When do you feel your heart most closed off to people? What kinds of people? What does that say about you? How might you pray and ask God to give you the heart of Christ?
10. We understand that if an unbeliever won't admit his/her sins, they will not receive forgiveness from Christ. What's the danger of a *Christian* who gets into that habit?
11. A temptation for people who see their Pharisee-tendencies is to *work harder* to be less that way. Why won't that work? What part do we play in our efforts at being more Christ-like? What part does *Christ* play in our efforts at being more Christ-like?