

Do Good

Scripture Reading — Matthew 12:9-14

Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath. — Matthew 12:12

What keeps us from doing good? Sometimes it's our busyness. Other times it may be that doing something good is not convenient. Or perhaps we just don't want to go against social norms, so we hold back. Whatever the reason, at one time or another, most of us have passed up an opportunity to do something good for someone.

The Pharisees presented Jesus with a difficult situation. Their laws said it was a violation to do work on the Sabbath, unless it meant saving a life. But here in the temple was a man with a withered hand. His life was not in danger, though. Should he be healed on the Sabbath?

Jesus didn't even hesitate. He asked the religious leaders what they would do if something bad happened to one of their precious sheep on the Sabbath. Of course they would help the animal. And wasn't a person more valuable than a sheep? This man with a shriveled hand was precious to God. So of course this man could be helped on the Sabbath. Then Jesus healed the man.

Should anything stop us from doing good for each other? No.

Nothing stood in Jesus' way. We are his treasured possessions. He has done and will do whatever it takes to rescue us and make us whole. Healing, deliverance, salvation, care—none of these things is beyond reason for God to act. So nothing should stand in our way either.

Prayer

Father, you never hesitate to pour out your goodness on us. Let us never hesitate to do the same for others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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