

Catechism Lesson for Adults and Teens
10th Sunday of Luke
Healing on the Sabbath

Read the Gospel Passage. Luke 13:10-17

Contextual Background:

-Doing any work (or making plans) on the Sabbath (Saturday) was illegal for the Jews. To this day, orthodox Jews are not permitted to do even menial tasks like watering a plant or sharpening a pencil. This was supposed to be a day of total rest and prayer. Christians have considered "Sunday" to be the new Sabbath as this is the day Jesus rose from the dead, and is to be a day of celebration and prayer.

-The woman in this reading is reported as having "a spirit of infirmity". Our faith tells us that sometimes sickness occurs due to spiritual warfare, as Jesus mentions that the woman was "bound by Satan for eighteen years".

Discussion Questions:

1. How did the Pharisees respond to Jesus healing this woman? (MULTIPLE CHOICE)
 - a. They praised God
 - b. They complained that a law was broken
 - c. They were afraid and fled
 - d. They did not believe what had happened

2. How does Jesus show it is permissible for Him to heal the woman? (MULTIPLE CHOICE)
 - a. He says He's the Son of God and can break the rules whenever He'd like
 - b. He exposes the Pharisees of all their sins to the public
 - c. He asks if the Law permits untying their animals on the Sabbath so they can drink
 - d. He points out because she's been sick for 18 years that an exception can be made

3. Are you more of a "the-rules-are-meant-to-be-broken" or "play-it-by-the-books" type of person? Why? Examples? (DISCUSSION)

4. On Sundays, what do you try to give up or not do to keep the day holy? What do you wish you could give up on Sundays? (DISCUSSION)

5. On Sundays, what are some things you do to rejuvenate or make the day holy (besides going to church)? What do you wish you or your family would start doing on Sundays? (DISCUSSION)
6. The woman who was healed no doubt came to the synagogue for others reasons than just hoping to be healed. What are some reasons you come to church on Sunday? (DISCUSSION)
7. Freedom is a repeated theme in this reading, such as freedom within the confines of the law, freedom from infirmity, etc. (DISCUSSION)
 - a. What does the word freedom to you and what are your most prized freedoms?
 - b. What freedom do you feel God gives you?
 - c. What obstacles stand in the way of your freedom and what is the impact that these obstacles have on you?