

LESSON 5

JESUS' HEALING

JESUS HEALED A CRIPPLED MAN ON THE SABBATH AND DEFENDED THE ACT (JN. 5:1–47)

Jesus had been busy in the Great Galilean Ministry, but now He took a break to go to Jerusalem for a religious feast (Jn. 5:1). At this Passover, He infuriated Jewish religious authorities by healing a man at the pool of Bethesda. [See *Life of Christ, 1*, pp. 191–195.]

1. What did Rabbinic tradition say about carrying a mat on the Sabbath?
2. What did the Jewish leaders' assault on Jesus prompt?
3. How did Jesus defend Himself to the Jews?
4. What did Jesus claim by saying that He was "equal with God"?

JESUS DEFENDED HIS DISCIPLES WHO PLUCKED GRAIN ON THE SABBATH (MT. 12:1–8; MK. 2:23–28; LK. 6:1–5)

After Christ returned to Galilee, one Sabbath He and His disciples were walking through a grainfield. Since His disciples were hungry, they picked the heads off of the grain and ate them as they walked. [See *Life of Christ, 1*, pp. 203–206.]

5. Of what exactly did the Pharisees accuse the disciples?
6. On what grounds did Jesus claim that His disciples were innocent?
7. Who did Jesus say has authority over what can or cannot be done on the Sabbath?

8. Does Jesus' defense of His disciples imply that Christians can break God's laws with impunity? Explain.

**JESUS DEFENDED HEALING A WITHERED
HAND ON THE SABBATH
(MT. 12:9–14; MK. 3:1–6; LK. 6:6–11)**

Shortly afterward, Jesus went into a synagogues where He was allowed to teach (Lk. 6:6). Present in the assembly was a man whose hand was withered. [See *Life of Christ, 1*, pp. 206–208.]

9. What did Pharisaical regulations say about healing on the Sabbath?
10. How did the Pharisees respond to Jesus' illustration and action?
11. Were the Pharisees and Herodians supporters of each other? Explain.
12. Did Jesus break Sabbath laws to heal the man's hand?

**JESUS HEALED MULTITUDES BESIDE
THE SEA OF GALILEE
(MT. 12:15–21; MK. 3:7–12)**

In response to the three Sabbath confrontations, Jesus separated Himself from His enemies to avoid further conflict. This was Christ's first withdrawal in an attempt to defuse the tension. There would be others. [See *Life of Christ, 1*, pp. 209–210.]

13. To which sea did Jesus go? Find it on the map.
14. In this case, why did Jesus warn those He healed not to tell who He was?
15. According to Matthew, what prophecies did Jesus fulfill while preaching at the sea?

**AFTER PRAYER, JESUS SELECTED
TWELVE APOSTLES
(MT. 10:2–4; MK. 3:13–19; LK. 6:12–16)**

Jesus' next response to increasing hostility was to select twelve men to carry on His work when He was gone. [See *Life of Christ, 1*, pp. 210–214.]

16. How long did Jesus pray before He selected the Twelve?

17. What does the word “apostle” mean, and how is it used in the Bible?
18. Was it significant that Jesus chose *twelve* apostles?
19. Does anything stand out when comparing the four gospel writers’ lists of the Twelve?
20. What can we surmise concerning those apostles about whom nothing is specifically said in the Gospel Accounts?