<u>Lord of the Sabbath</u> (Luke 6:1-11—part one) I. Introduction (Luke 5:20-21, 27-30, 33)

II.	The Pharisees Accuse Jesus' Disciples of Sabbath-Breaking (1-2; Dt. 23:24f; 5:14-15; Mt. 7:3; 23:23-24)
III.	Are Jesus & His Disciples Actually Breaking the Sabbath? a. We Need to Take God's Word Seriously: Remember & Understand! (3a; Jn. 5:39-40; Ps. 119:97)
	b. Don't You Know What David Did? (3-4; 1 Sam 21-22)
IV.	Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath (5; Mt. 5:17; Exo. 20:11; Isa. 58:13-14; Heb. 4:9, 11)
V.	Conclusion: Practically, What Should the Sabbath Look Like? (5; Mt. 11:28)

Questions for Family Discussion

- What is the Sabbath day <u>for</u>? Is the Day supposed to be a <u>joy</u> or a <u>burden</u>? How does the Pharisees' legalism <u>completely miss the *point* of the fourth commandment? Should our **focus** be on <u>what to do</u>, or <u>what not to do</u>?</u>
- Have you ever fallen into hypocrisy: more concerned about <u>other peoples' sins</u> than your <u>own sins</u>? Explain.
- Jesus criticizes the Pharisees for not understanding the Scriptures. What are you doing to actively <u>receive</u>, <u>remember</u>, <u>understand</u>, & <u>act upon</u> God's Word? Could note-taking or sermon discussions at home *help* you?
- How do we know the fourth commandment has not been abolished? How has its practice changed in the NT?
- How should you prepare for the Sabbath? What are some legitimate acts of necessity you might do on the Sabbath?
- Who is the Sabbath all about? How does Jesus' identity as "Lord of the Sabbath" affect the way you treat this Day?

The Blessing of Church Membership (Romans 12:1-21)

- I. No Salvation Apart from the Church? (1 Cor. 1:2; Gal. 1:2; Acts 15; Eph. 1:4; 5:25; 1 Jn. 3:14; Eph. 4:11-14; Jas. 4:6; **Rom. 12:3**)
- Belgic Confession Art. 28: We believe that since this holy assembly and congregation is the gathering of those who are saved and there is no salvation apart from it, no one ought to withdraw from it, content to be by himself, regardless of his status or condition.

- II. You Must Submit!
 - 1. To the Church's *Instruction* (Mt 28:19f; Acts 2:42f; **Ro 12:2**)
- But all people are obliged to join and unite with it, keeping the unity of the church by submitting to its instruction and discipline, by bending their necks under the yoke of Jesus Christ, and by serving to build up one another, according to the gifts God has given them as members of each other in the same body.
- 2. To the Church's *Discipline* (1 Pe 5:2; Mt. 18:12; Ac 20:28-31)
- And to preserve this unity more effectively, it is the duty of all believers, according to God's Word, to separate themselves from those who do not belong to the church, in order to join this assembly wherever God has established it, even if civil authorities and royal decrees forbid and death and physical punishment result.
- 3. Bend Your Neck Under Christ's Yoke! (Mt. 11:28-30)
- And so, all who withdraw from the church or do not join it act contrary to God's ordinance.
- III. Service (Phil. 2:3; Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:15-17; Rom. 12:9-13)
- IV. Separation (Mt. 10:32-38; Acts 5:29, 40-41; Rev. 2:10)
- V. Conclusion (Rev. 5:13)

Questions for Family Discussion

- Do you treasure church membership? Why should we? What are some things you love about your local church?
- Is there really *no salvation* apart from the church? Is this talking about the visible (local) church, the invisible (universal) church, or both? Can a person be saved without being on the membership roll of a local church? Can a person be saved who willfully refuses to submit to Christ and actively chooses not to join a local congregation?
- Why is **submission** to Christ so important for us? Do **you** really **need** <u>instruction</u> **and** <u>discipline</u>? Why?
- What are some gifts the Lord has given you, that you will use to serve Christ's body here in Bellingham?
- Why must we **separate** from unbelievers and from false or deformed churches? Where should we draw the line?
- Have you counted the **cost** of discipleship? Are you willing to follow Christ *wherever* he leads you, even into *persecution* and *suffering*? Even to *death*? How can our Lord's promise in Rev. 2:10 help you make this commitment?