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The Man With The Withered Hand
(Mark 3)

When Jesus desired to heal the man with the withered hand it was the Sabbath day. The Jewish religious leaders watched Him closely to see what He would do. They had strict laws concerning Sabbath observance, and according to their tradition it was illegal to heal on the Sabbath Day. *But would the day of the week keep Jesus from reaching out to a needy man? Would the Sabbath keep Him from doing good?* Jesus looked at the Pharisees gathered in the synagogue. "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" he asked them. The Pharisees did not answer Him. He turned to the man and said, "Stretch out your hand." He obeyed. Immediately his withered hand was completely healed!

POINTS TO PONDER:

A. As A Christian, God Wants You To Do Good To All, Especially To Fellow Believers

✧ *Galatians 6:10- "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."*

B. God Still Heals Today. For Those Who Are Sick, The Bible Gives Some Simple Steps To Follow:

✧ *James 5:13-16- "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."*

C. Jesus Called Twelve Men To Join Him In Ministry. Notice The Power He Gave Them (v13-19)

D. In The Parable (v23-29), Satan is the Strong Man, But Jesus is the Stronger Man!

✧ Did you know that Bible predicts Satan's final downfall? You and I have a part to play!
Romans 16:20 – *"And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly."*

CHALLENGE TO CHANGE:

In v35 Jesus said, ***"For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother."***

Ponder these words. As Christians, we are all related to Jesus by being born again and by doing His will. Christ considers us His true family. Notice in verses 31-35 that Jesus puts His disciples before His own family. Is Christ more important to you than all your friends and family, your work, and all your other weekly activities? Examine your heart and answer truthfully. Give Jesus first place in your life.