

Words for Study and Ideas
to think About

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Why do we do what we do?

Why do we assemble on Sunday?

Acts 20:7 I Cor 16:2

Why should we attend as often as we can?

Hebrews 10:24-25

Why do we have Elders and Deacons?

I Timothy 3:1-13 Titus 1:5-9
Acts 20:17-28 I Peter 5:1-4

What are Biblical Names for the Church?

Romans 16:16 Acts 20:28
I Timothy 3:15 Colossians 1:13

Why do we take the Lord's Supper?

Acts 20:7 I Corinthians 11:23-28
Matthew 26:26-28

Why do we sing?

Ephesians 5:19 Colossians 3:16

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A Study of Matthew

Matthew 12:1-50

Lesson 10

Assignment for next Week — Read Matthew 13:1-23

Memory Verse — Matthew 12:50

Many times in Christ ministry he was challenged by the Pharisees for what he was doing. The Pharisees were very strict about observing traditions, and would even uphold their traditions higher than God's law. The Pharisees once asked Jesus if it was lawful to heal on the Sabbath. To point out the Pharisees hypocrisy Christ ask them, would they not help one of their animals if it needed help on the Sabbath. Then he healed a man with a withered hand. Christ made a point to them -- If it was alright for them to help an animal, how much more so would it be to help their brethren. We too need to be careful that we do not let tradition get in the way of us doing that which is right.

When we do something we need to understand why we do it. We need to ask ourselves, is what we are doing tradition or is it a direct command of God. As we learn more about God's will for our lives and study his word we will find occasions were God has specifically told us when or how to do something; however, we also find times when he has not given us a direct command on how He specifically wants us to do something. It is important that we learn to distinguish between the two. We need to seek the Lord with all our heart and learn his word and seek to live as him. Christ said that the Pharisees needed to learn what was meant by the saying, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice." God desires that we serve him. Once the prophet Samuel upbraided King Saul with words stating that to Obey is better than

sacrifice. God does not want us to put giving or doing something to or for him in place of obeying him. King Saul had directly disobeyed God by brining back animals from the slaughter of the Amelikites as well as brought back their king. In a similar fashion the Pharisees had disregarded the needs of the brethren and some had even went as far as to say they could not help their parents because they had given to God. Truly to obey is better than sacrifice.

Christ proceeded, after this incident with the Pharisees, to let them know that no man can serve two masters. We cannot love both the world and God. We cannot be both a good and bad tree. Truly, from the heart men speak and if we have a good heart, much good should come from it.

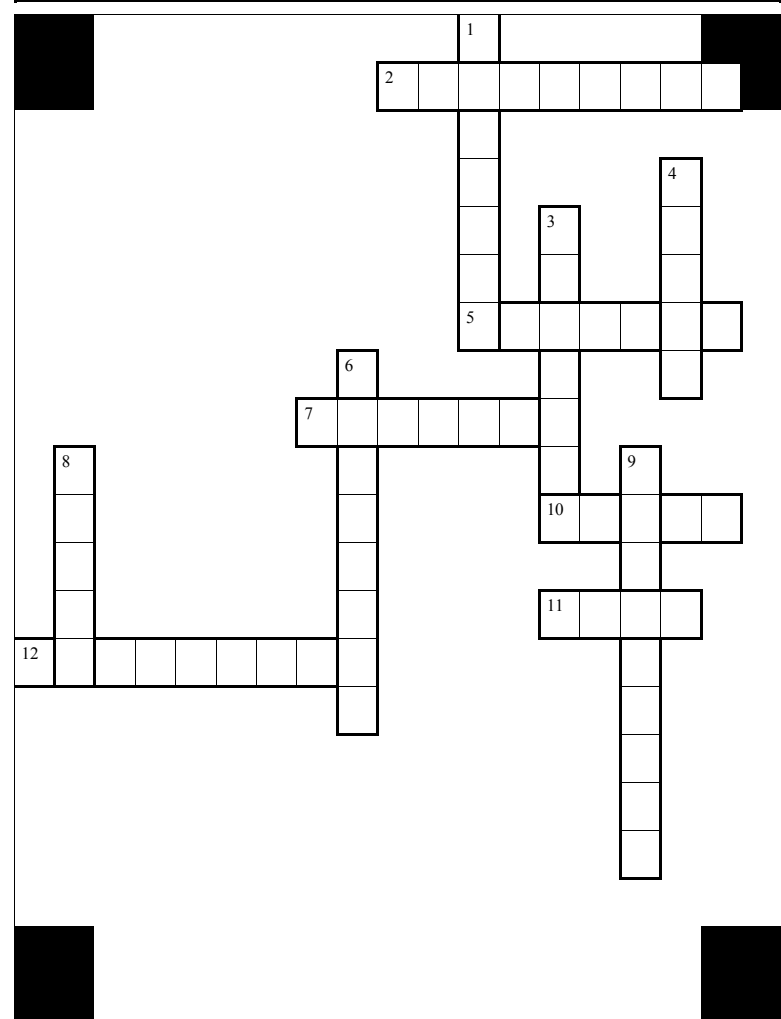
Later in this chapter we find a parable taught by Christ. This parable has a very important lesson for us. The parable is about an unclean spirit that is cast out, and leaves and goes and when it comes back it finds the place clean and unoccupied and returns and makes the man worse. One lesson we can draw from this is that we only have two choices. We can either fill our lives with Christ or if we chose to fill our lives with nothing -- Satan can easily fill our life. We need to seek to fill our lives with the love of God.

The chapter closes with a very memorable event. Christ's mother and brothers seek him and it is told Christ that whosoever does the will of His Heavenly Father is His brother and His sister and His mother. How wonderful to know that we can be a brother or sister of Christ. John put it so beautifully in I John when he said, "Behold! How glorious is the love the Father has showered upon us, that we should be called God's children, and we are!"

Questions

W
78
CROSS
R

Answer the Questions on Page
to fill in the Puzzle.



Cross Word Fun for Learning

Across

2. Who held a council to decide how they might destroy Jesus?(12:14)
5. Why Jesus disciples picked grain while they were walking through the fields. The were _____(12:1)
7. Every house this way cannot stand.(12:25)
10. This speaks from the heart.(12:34)
11. What the Pharisees requested of Jesus?(12:39)
12. Where Jesus healed a man with a withered hand.(12:9-13)

Down

1. The day of the week it was when Jesus' disciples were hungry and picked grain from the field, which made the Pharisees upset. (12:1)
3. Every one of these divided cannot stand.(12:25)
4. What type of Animal Jesus asked the Pharisees if they would not help if it fell in a pit on the Sabbath.(12:11)
6. Jesus healed a man with a _____ hand.(12:10-13)
8. God desires this instead of sacrifice.(12:7)
9. The men of Ninevah will rise up and condemn that generation when?(12:41)

Across - 2. Prison, 3. Burden, 4. Preach, 5. Chorazin, 6. Least, 10. Offended, 11. Father - Down - 1. Sidon, 2. Prudent, 4. Prophet, 7. Elijah, 8. Yoke, 9. Works

1. What did the Pharisees condemn Jesus disciples of doing?

2. What was Christ's response?

3. What question did the Pharisees ask that they might find something to accuse Jesus of?

4. How did Jesus Respond?

5. What was the Sign Jesus promised that Generation?

6. What Parable did Jesus Teach in this lesson?

7. Whom did Jesus say is his family?

Match the Scripture with the Incident

- | | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| a. 12:1 | b. 12:10 | c. 12:11-12 | d. 12:13 |
| e. 12:15 | f. 12:22 | g. 12:25 | h. 12:30 |
| | i. 12:39-40 | | j. 12:50 |

_____ 1. Jesus told the Pharisees, the only sign they would receive would be the sign of Jonah.

_____ 2. Jesus Healed a man who was blind, dumb, and had a devil.

_____ 3. Jesus Disciples plucked ears of grain because they were hungry as they were going through a field on the Sabbath.

_____ 4. Jesus ask the Pharisees if they had a sheep in

need of help on the Sabbath,would they not help it. He then asked if a man was not much more valuable than a sheep. Jesus stated that it was lawful to do well on the Sabbath.

_____ 5. Jesus said that whosoever did the will of his heavenly father was his family.

_____ 6. Great multitudes followed Jesus and he healed them that were diseased.

_____ 7 . Jesus said that every Kingdom divided against itself will not stand.

_____ 8. The Pharisees asked Jesus if it was lawful to heal on the Sabbath, to accuse him.

_____ 9. Jesus healed a man's withered hand.

_____ 10. Jesus said, he that is not with me is against me.

Review

Number the Events in Order and
Tell which Chapter the Events occurred In

_____ a. Jesus was baptized.

_____ b. Jesus taught the Beatitudes.

_____ c. Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law.

_____ d. Wise men came to Jerusalem seeking the one who had been born the King of the Jews.

_____ e. Jesus called his disciples and gave them power over unclean spirits and diseases.

_____ f. John sent and asked Jesus if he was the one to come of if they should look for another.

_____ g. John asked the Pharisees and Sadducees to show proof that they had changed.

_____ h. Jesus taught about a man who built on the rock and a man who built on the sand.

_____ i. Jesus told his disciples to be as harmless as doves and as wise as serpents.