### Luke

## Chapter 6

1Now, [Jesus] happened to be walking through some grain fields on a Sabbath and his disciples had been picking the grain, rubbing it in their hands, and eating it.  
  
2So some of the Pharisees asked him:  
  
 ‘Why are they doing something that isn’t legal on the Sabbath?’  
  
3And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘Haven’t you ever read how David did the same thing when he and his men got hungry… 4How he went into the Temple of God and ate the presentation bread, sharing some with his men… Something that isn’t legal for anyone to eat other than the Priests?’  
  
5Then he added:  
  
 ‘The Son of Man is the Lord of the Sabbath!’  
  
  
  
6And on another Sabbath, he again went into the synagogue and started teaching.  
  
Well, there he found a man whose right hand was withered, 7and the Scribes and Pharisees were watching [Jesus] closely to see if he would cure him on the Sabbath, so they could accuse him of some wrongdoing.  
  
8However, because [Jesus] knew what they were thinking, he said to the man with the withered hand:  
  
 ‘Get up and go stand in the center [of the room].’  
  
So [the man went over there] and stood. 9 Then Jesus asked them all:  
  
 ‘Is it legal to do good or bad, or to save a life or destroy it on the Sabbath?’  
  
10And after looking around at everyone, he said to the man:  
  
 ‘Now, stretch out your hand.’  
  
And when he did, his hand was healed!  
  
11Nevertheless, [the Scribes and Pharisees] went into a rage and they started talking to each other about what they could do to Jesus.  
  
  
12It was also about this time that Jesus went up a mountain to pray, and he spent the whole night there in prayer to God. 13Then the next day, he called his disciples to him and chose 12 of them whom he started calling Apostles [meaning, Sent Ones].  
  
14There was:  
  
 • Simon (whom he also named Peter) and,  
 • his brother Andrew, as well as...  
 • James,  
 • John,  
 • Philip,  
 • BarTholomew [or, NathaniEl],  
 • 15Matthew,  
 • Thomas,  
 • James, [the son] of AlphaEus,  
 • Simon (who’s called the zealous one),  
 • 16Judas [ThadDaeus, the son] of James, and  
 • Judas IsCariot (who turned traitor).  
  
  
  
17Well, after they came down [the mountain], he found a level spot where a large group of his disciples, as well as a huge crowd of people from Judea, JeruSalem, and the seaside areas of Tyre and Sidon came to listen to him and to be healed of their illnesses.  
  
18And there, as many people who were bothered by unclean spirits were being healed, 19everyone else in the crowd was trying to touch him. So power flowed from him, and he healed them all.  
  
20Then he looked at his disciples and he said this to them:  
  
 ‘Blest are the poor, for theirs is the Kingdom of God;  
 21Blest are the hungry, for they’ll be filled;  
 And blest are those who are crying,  
 For they’ll find reasons to laugh.  
  
 22‘You’re blest whenever men hate you  
 And don’t wish to be among you;  
 Or when they say bad things about you  
 And call you wicked for the Son of Man’s sake.  
  
 23‘In that day, be happy and jump for joy,  
 For {Look!} your reward in the heavens is great,  
 Since these are the very same things  
 That their fathers used to say of the Prophets.  
  
 24‘But, woe to those who are rich,  
 For they won’t receive any comfort.  
 25And woe to those with full [stomachs],  
 For they’ll be the ones going hungry.  
  
 ‘Also, woe to those who are laughing,  
 Because they’ll be crying and mourning.  
 26And woe when people say nice things about you,  
 For that’s what their fathers said of false prophets.  
  
 27‘I say this to all that will listen:  
  
 ‘Show love for those who oppose you,  
 And do good to all those who hate you.  
 28Yes, praise the ones who would curse you,  
 And pray for those who insult you.  
  
 29‘If someone should slap you on [the right] cheek,  
 Turn [your left] to him also.  
 And if someone should take all your clothes,  
 Offer your underwear too.  
  
 30‘Yes, to each one who asks, you should give,  
 And don’t tell them that they must repay…  
 31Treat others as you wish to be treated!  
  
 32‘And if you love just those who love you,  
 What kind of good are you doing?  
 Even sinners love those who love them.  
  
 33‘Also, if you’re just good to those who do good for you,  
 What kind of kindness are you showing?  
 Even sinners will do that same thing.  
  
 34‘And if you choose to lend without interest  
 To those whom you know will repay you,  
 What kind of good deed are you doing?  
 For, sinners lend to sinners without interest  
 When they know that they’ll be paid back.  
  
 35‘So love those [that hate you] and do what’s good,  
 And lend without hope of return;  
 Then you’ll receive a better reward…  
 You’ll be the sons of the Most High,  
 Who is kind to even the ungrateful…  
 36Yes, show mercy as your Father shows mercy.  
  
 37‘Don’t judge [others], so you won’t be judged…  
 Don’t condemn, and you won’t be condemned…  
 Set free, and you’ll be set free.  
  
 38‘Give to others and you’ll receive…  
 They’ll give you a generous portion,  
 Overflowing and tightly packed down.  
 For the amount that you measure [to others]  
 Is the amount that they’ll measure to you.’  
  
  
39Then he spoke these parables to them:  
  
 ‘If a blind man leads another who’s blind,  
 Won’t both fall into a pit?  
  
 40‘A disciple isn’t over his teacher,  
 But those who learn [from their teachers]  
 Will then become like their teachers.  
  
 41‘Why look for chaff in your brother’s eye,  
 When you can’t see the rafter in yours?  
 42For, how can you say to your brother:  
  
 ‘Let me remove that [chaff] from your eye...’  
  
 ‘When you can’t see the rafter in yours?  
  
 ‘Hypocrite!  
  
 ‘First remove the rafter from your own eye,  
 And then you’ll be able to see clearly  
 How to take the [chaff] from your brother’s eye.  
  
 43‘A good tree doesn’t produce rotten fruit  
 And a rotten tree doesn’t give good fruit…  
 44So all trees are known by their fruit.  
 As you don’t pick figs from the briers,  
 And you don’t cut grapes from thorn bushes.  
  
 45‘So a good man brings good from the good in his heart,  
 While the wicked bring bad things from theirs;  
 For their mouths speak from all the badness  
 That they’ve treasured within their hearts.  
  
 46‘And why cry out to me, ‘O Lord, O Lord,’  
 If you don’t do the things that I say?  
 47Those who come here to listen and do as I say  
 48Are like the man who dug down to rock  
 To lay the foundation for his house.  
 So when floods and the river washed on it,  
 It stood, because it was built upon rock.  
  
 49‘But those who don’t listen and do as I say  
 Are like the man who built his house on the sand.  
 So when the river washed on it,  
 It collapsed, resulting in damage.’