



The Words of Jesus Series

Lord of the Sabbath

Calling Four Disciples, Attending a Party, and Sabbath Questions

Course Text: Luke 5&6; Matthew 4 & 9; Mark 1 & 2)

Outline

Lesson 1 - Calling of Four Disciples

(Luke 5:1-11, Matthew 4:17-22, Mark 1:14-20)

Lesson 2 - Matthew Gives a Party for Jesus

(Luke 5:27-39)

Lesson 3 - Violating the Sabbath?

(Luke 6:1-11)

Four disciples are called, Jesus attends a party with the culturally unacceptable, tells some puzzling parables and questions about the Sabbath arise.



Celebrating the Sabbath in the Yucatán

Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the lesson's text aloud from the Bible. (... or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak.**
7. Discuss your "Think & Pray" answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called "For Further Thought" or just start the next chapter. Of course, you can always use the standard questions, "What would you like to remember from this lesson?" or "What did you learn from this lesson that you did not know before?"

Copyright Information

All content of this training course not attributed to others is copyrighted, including questions, formatting, and explanatory text. **Copyright © 2014 by Thor F. Carden. All rights reserved.**

Illustrations and Photos by Trish Carden Copyright © 2014 by Patricia S. Carden. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Course Logo by Troy Cunningham Copyright © 2014 by Troy Cunningham. All rights reserved. Used by permission. <http://www.lovebiblestudy.com/Troy/art.htm>

Illustrations by Jeff Larson Copyright © 2000-2014. All rights reserved. Used by permission. <http://www.thebackpew.com>

NASB or **NASV** (New American Standard Bible) Unless otherwise noted, scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

----- PRICE INFORMATION -----

This material is provided at no cost to those in jail or prison. If you are not incarcerated you have permission to print and copy these course materials as much as you like as long as you make payment for their use and keep this page intact with the contents. This is not free, except to those who are in jail or prison, and although we are a ministry, we are not a non-profit organization. We expect to be paid, to help finance our ministry to the incarcerated. We suggest two different ways of determining the price.

(1) Take up an offering from the students at the end of the course, and send it to us.

OR

(2) Pray about it and pay us what God tells you to send.

Of course, we have designed the website so that there is nothing to stop you from just downloading and printing the course. If you think it is worth nothing, why are you using it? If you think God would have you take or teach this course and you have no money to pay for it, I urge you to reconsider. If God does not want you to use this course He might be trying to let you know that by withholding funds. Or He might have some other purpose, like teaching you to humbly ask somebody else to fund it. Or maybe something else, but if we worship the same God, He would not have you just take it without regard to our wishes. We hope to make enough money to continue producing and providing these lessons. If God does not bless this ministry with financial encouragement, we will take that as pretty strong evidence He does not want us to make any more of these lessons available.

We prefer that you mail us a check, but you may also pay by credit card via PayPal.

Love Bible Study

PO Box 1075

Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1075

Paypal information at

<http://www.LoveBibleStudy.com/price.htm>

Lesson 1 - Calling of Four Disciples

(Context: Luke 5, Matthew 4, Mark 1)

Jesus called certain men that he chose to follow Him. The story in Luke has many more details. Without the details the behavior of the men as described in Matthew and Mark seems very odd, as if Jesus just forced them to do what he said. In Luke, however, we see what He did, that made the men willing to follow Him so immediately.

Please read Luke 5:1-11 and answer his question:

[1A] What happened to the nets when Jesus told them where to fish.

Please read Matthew 4:17-22 and answer the following questions:

[1B] What were Simon Peter and Andrew doing when He called them? _____

[1C] What did Jesus tell them He was going to make them? _____

[1D] How long did they think about it before they followed Him? _____

Please read Mark 1:14-20 and answer the following questions:

[1E] When Jesus preached He told His listeners to do two things. What?

_____ and _____

[1F] What were James and John doing when He called them? _____

[1G] How long did they think about it before they followed Him? _____

[1H] Opposite to what I said above, some theologians say that the calling of Peter, Andrew, John and James as described in Matthew 4:17-22 and Mark 1:14-20 is really a different event altogether than the one in Luke 5:1-11. Which seems more reasonable to you, and why? (Hopefully by now you know it is OK to disagree with this author.)

Think & Pray _____

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



and they caught so many fish the nets were beginning to break.. **Lk 5:6** THEN the Fish & Game police show up.

Lesson 1 - Calling of Four Disciples

[1A] What happened to the nets when Jesus told them where to fish.

There were so many fish the nets were breaking. Lk 5:4-7

[1B] What were Simon Peter and Andrew doing when He called them? Fishing Mt 4:18
Pulling in nets so full they were sinking the boats perhaps?

[1C] What did Jesus tell them He was going to make them? Fishers of men Mt 4:19

[1D] How long did they think about it before they followed Him? No time at all Mt 4:20

[1E] When Jesus preached He told His listeners to do two things. What?
Repent and believe in the Gospel Mark 1:15

[1F] What were James and John doing when He called them? Mending fishing nets Mk 1:19
From where they were broken by all the fish that had miraculously appeared?

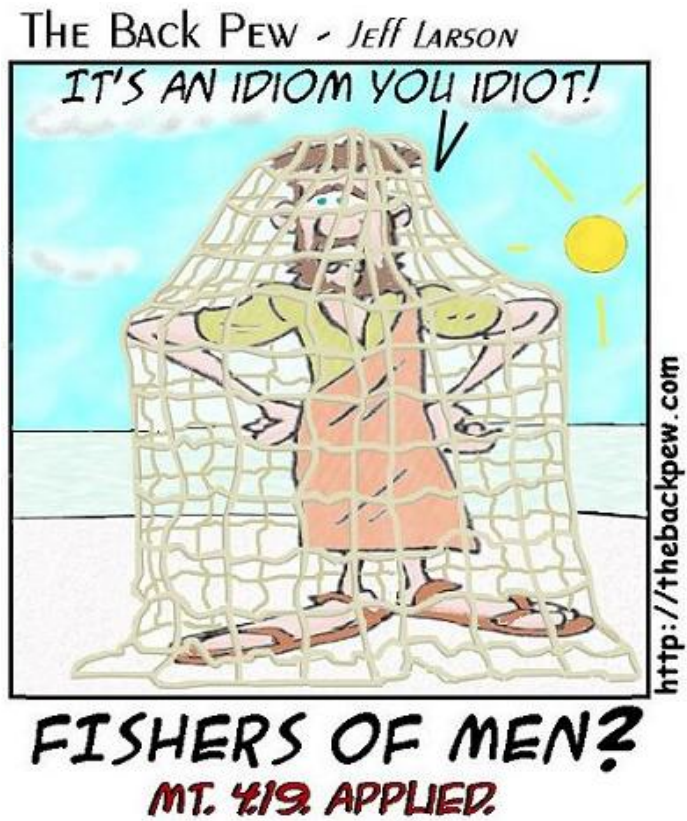
[1G] How long did they think about it before they followed Him? No time at all. Mk 1:20

[1H] **Called to Fish:** Something made those four men willing to follow Him. Either He convinced them by what He said and did, or God supernaturally placed recognition of Him in their hearts. Certainly this last is possible, but if it is true, why did they later wonder who He was? Why did they scatter when He was crucified? Why were they surprised when he was resurrected? Luke supplies us with the details of what Jesus did to convince them to follow Him. It is the same event.

For further thought:

(1i) In Mt 4:20 the disciples responded immediately. How long was it from the time you first heard the call of God on your life until you responded to it.

(1j) Peter and the others went from being fishermen to fishers of men. How is God turning your profession into something useful in His kingdom?



Lesson 2 - Matthew Levi Gives a Party for Jesus (Context: Lk 5, Mt 9, Mk 2)

(Most scholars think his first name was Matthew and his last name was Levi.)

Jesus continues to preach and do mighty miracles. He calls a tax collector named Matthew Levi to be his disciple. Tax collectors were not well liked by the Jews, much less so than the way we might feel about tax collectors today. Tax collectors were Jews who worked for the Romans collecting taxes for them. They were looked on as traitors who sold out to the conquering Romans for money. Most Jews would have nothing to do with them socially or any other way if they could avoid it.

Please read Luke 5:27-39 and answer the following questions:

[2A] What was Levi doing when Jesus called Him? _____

[2B] What did Levi do for Jesus?

[2C] Who needs a physician? _____

[2D] What happens when you sew old and new cloth together?

[2E] What happens when you put new wine in old wine skins?

[2F] Compare Mak 2:18 and Matthew 9:14 with what it says in the Luke passage we are studying. Who asked the question about fasting?

In Luke: _____

In Matthew: _____

In Mark: _____

[2G] In Luke 5:36-39 Jesus tells two parables. He is not really talking about cloth and wine bottles. What is He talking about?

Think & Pray _____

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Now if by mistake you put new wine in old wineskins, then use the handyman's best friend... **DUCTTAPE** **Mark 2:22, Luke 5:37** **RGIF** (Red Green International Version)

Lesson 2 - Matthew Levi Gives a Party for Jesus

[2A] What was Levi doing when Jesus called Him? Collecting taxes Lk 5:27

[2B] What did Levi do for Jesus? Gave a big reception (party) for Him Lk 5:29

[2C] Who needs a physician? Sick people Lk 5:31

[2D] What happens when you sew old and new cloth together?

When you wash it the new cloth shrinks causing damage to your work. Lk 7:36

In the days of Christ the cloth they had was not like the synthetic material that we have today. They all shrank when washed for the first time. Of course, today we have pre-shrunk wool and pre-shrunk cotton but in those days they did not have pre-shrunk material. Let's say they a pair of pants and the knee was worn out. The pants have been washed several times and have shrunk the maximum shrinkage amount. If they put a new patch of cloth on it and washed it, what happened to the new patch? It shrank but the old did not shrink any more, it had shrunk as much as it could. So the new patch tore away. In other words the two materials are incompatible.

[2E] What happens when you put new wine in old wind skins? As the wine goes through the aging process it breaks the old dried out skins, and is lost. Lk 7:37

The wine makers used sheepskin or goatskin for bottles. When they made wine they put this wine in and they allowed it to ferment in the skin. Now new skin is flexible; it's soft, and, when the wine fermented, it expanded and the skin expanded with it. No problem. Then, after so many days, it was mature; it was ready for selling. They would sell it gradually or use it and when the wine was finished the skin was no longer usable to make new wine. The reasons were, first, the wineskin had stretched to its maximum capacity. Second, when the wine was gone it did not shrink back. It remained stretched and it dried. So if you put new wine into it, it would have to expand further and the skin would not take it. It would burst and he would lose the bottle and the wine at the same time.

[2F] Who asked the question about fasting? John's Disciples, the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law Mt 9:14, Mk 2:18 and Lk 5:30 and 33. Just because a writer does not mention everyone who was there does not mean they were not there. You have to look at all three passages to get the complete picture.

[a] Pharisees and Teachers of the Law Lk 5:30 and 33

[b] John's Disciples and the Pharisees Mk 2:18

[c] John's Disciples Mt 9:14

[2G] **Old and New:** What was Jesus trying to get across to the people with whom He spoke? The Jewish religion had become simply a religion of do this and don't do that. Religion to them was not a joyous expression of God's blessings on them. They did not understand God's grace. Religion to them was just legalisms; they had long faces; they looked miserable. For example, Moses commanded that they should fast once a year. The Pharisees had added their own traditions to this until they were fasting twice a week. This religion they made up was the new cloth and new wineskins that did not work with God's original message of grace which has not changed since the beginning of time. In my opinion.

For further thought:

(2h) The Pharisees were trapped by their tradition. What is something you always do just because you always have? Would it hurt anything to ask God if you should continue doing that?

(2i) Jesus was criticized for socializing with tax collectors. When was the last time you reached out to someone who is not well liked by people in general, or of low value according to our culture?

Lesson 3 - Violating the Sabbath?

[3A] What work were the disciples of Jesus doing on the Sabbath?

Picking grain Lk 6:1

[3B] What did David eat when he was hungry? Ate consecrated bread Lk 6:4, Mk 2:25-27

[3C] What is Jesus the Lord of? The Sabbath Lk 6:5, Mt 12:8.

Of course, he is Lord of everything, but in this passage it only mentions the Sabbath.

[3D] Why were the scribes and Pharisees watching Him?

So they could find something to accuse Him of. Lk 6:7

[3E] When Jesus asked the Pharisees if it was lawful to do good and save a life on the Sabbath, how did they answer? They remained silent. Lk 6:9-10; Mk 3:4

[3F] Who did the Pharisees conspire with to destroy Jesus? the Herodians. Mk 3:6

This is significant because the Pharisees and Herodians hated each other.

[3G] Which are more valuable, sheep or people? People Mt 12:12

[3H] Why did God create the Sabbath? For man Mk 2:27

[3I] **New Sabbath Law?** Jesus said that the Sabbath was made for us. Why would He take away a blessing? The Pharisees had turned it into a legalistic burden instead of a blessing. He was simply pointing out their error.

In John chapter 5, it is interesting to me that neither Jesus nor the lame man violated the law of Moses. The law said people were not supposed to work on the Sabbath. There is nothing against healing on the Sabbath. The closest you can come to anything in the Old Testament about bearing a burden on the Sabbath is Jeremiah 17:21 "Thus says the LORD, 'Take heed for yourselves, and do not carry any load on the sabbath day or bring anything in through the gates of Jerusalem.' The context makes it clear that God is talking about bearing burdens in connection with completing a job or task, or to earn a living.

If that is not what it means then it would be unlawful for them to carry water in from a well, food to the table, or any number of other things that make it obvious God meant work. He was not creating new laws in Jeremiah, he was talking about obeying the ones they already knew about from the writings of Moses, and Moses did not talk about bearing burdens or healing on the Sabbath. They just made up new laws and laid them on people.

For further thought:

(3j) Compare Heb 4:3-11 with Gen 2:2. How does God want you to rest? Do you?

(3k) Why did God rest on the 7th day? Was he tired?

(3l) Do you enjoy your Sabbath on Saturday or Sunday? Why?

(3m) What did you learn in this course that you would most like to remember.

(3n) If someone asked you what this course was about what would you tell them.

(3o) Is there a verse and passage covered in this course that you would recommend be memorized.