

Mark 2:23-3:6

- **Pharisaical fault finding neglects what is really at stake!**

- Pointing out someone else’s sin is always easier than owning our own.
 - We identify surface symptoms because calling out the disease is A LOT scarier.
 - Directing the attention towards someone else deflects the focus away from our own faults.
 - The difference between knowing what the Law says and understanding why the Law says it depends on which way the scales are tipped in our direction.
- No one wants a tattle-tale when they really just need a friend...
...because accountability and grace go hand in hand!
- Our love for folks through God’s Spirit outweighs our discomfort in walking through the broken shards of lawlessness to proclaim His promise of restoration.

- **Perspective always benefits from some Sabbath insight!**

- We are called to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy for our sake, not God’s!
- The pace of how we live is set by how we rest!
 - When we are physically tired, we are also exhausted in every other aspect of our lives.
 - Spiritual rest demands a Sabbath restoration when we are refilled by God’s grace not just for our sake, but also for others!
 - We are called to be led by the Spirit of God so that we walk in His steps and not our own.
“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.” (1 John 4:1-3)

- Our busyness cannot be justified by productivity...
...because the question becomes: “Which spirit do we follow? And what fruit do we produce?”

- **We are called and equipped to make a difference... ...and we have a responsibility to actually do so!**

- Jesus grieves over the hardness of the Pharisees’ hearts towards a man who needs a real restoration.
 - We are called to grieve over injustice and lament over the indifference of ‘good men’!
 - We live to love and be loved by Christ, so we love those whom He loves.
 - Jesus restores the hand with the whole of the body...but this is about more than just flesh!
- In a word determined to be self-destructive, God calls us to own our faults and then offer them up to Him as we find His grace in the restoration! (Mark 3:6)
- Rest well in the Sabbath restoration so we can live, love, and serve in the work that God does through it!