

Nov. 19/20
take home

LIVECHRIST

LORD OF LIFE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,
the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name. ~ John 20:31*

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

Text: John 5:1-47

Key Verse: “Very truly I tell you, anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life.” ~ *John 5:24*

Biblical Background: According to the Pharisees, a man who had waited for 38 years to be healed could easily have waited for another day. The Sabbath Law was more important to them than the man’s healing. In the moral code of their day, the authorities had life fixed and regulated in a written code that had an answer for every situation one faced. Jesus insisted that principles, not petty rules, should govern the conduct of his followers. Principles require that we think, that we see the possible consequences of values and make wise choices. We have standards to be applied reverently and wholesomely to the tough moral dilemmas we face.

Sermon Reflections

Text Messages

for personal and small group reflection

What is the difference between grace and mercy?

The man at the pool, the woman at the well, John the Baptist; why is water such a focus in John’s Gospel?

Does the man at the pool want to be made well?

The religious leaders of Jesus’ day made principles and methods of equal importance. Do we ever do that today?

God’s Word has power. Where do we see or hear God’s Word today?

Do you ever play the role of victim, blaming others for your problems? Do you want to be made well?

(verses 16-30) Why were the Jewish leaders so determined to kill Jesus?

(verses 31-47) What testimony brought you to a belief in Jesus as the Son of God?

Faith Spark

Set out a bowl of water. Recall the stories in the Gospel of John that focus on water. Then try to remember other Biblical stories that have water as a theme. Have everyone dip their finger in the water and make the sign of the cross on their forehead. Remember that God works through the simple elements that are in our lives each day.

To read for next week: John 6:1-14

Read the text. As you read, jot down any questions or comments you have.

What do you wonder about? What catches your eye? What effect do these words have on you personally?