



Posted on July 29, 2016  
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An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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*Written for Sunday, August 21, 2016*

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Lectionary Year C*

**Scripture:** [Luke 13:10-17](#) [ **Summary:** *Jesus heals on the Sabbath* ]

**Supplies Needed:** No supplies needed

**ASK** (a.k.a *The On-Ramp*)

- Good morning!
- Can you tell me what your favorite sport is and some of the rules that are in it?
- What about soccer, for example – can you use your hands? (only the goalie can)
- And when does the clock stop? (Only during halftime)
- How about baseball – can a base runner go running into the outfield? (no, then s/he is out)
- With any sport, can you just wander on to the field whenever you want to? (No)

**TELL** (a.k.a *The Freeway*)

- So all of those rules are important, right?
- But when someone gets hurt, then those rules are quickly broken:, aren't they?
- When someone is hurt, the clock stops, people who aren't playing go out on the field, the ball is moved differently than it normally is.
- The regular rules, then, don't start back up until the hurt person is helped.
- And that is because people are more important than the game and rules of the game.
- The same sort of thing happens in today's scripture story.
- There are certain rules that the Israelites were given about their day off for worship, called "Sabbath."
- One of the rules was that they weren't supposed to work on the Sabbath.

- But when Jesus saw a woman in the congregation who was hurting, Jesus healed that woman.
- The leader of the congregation became upset and told Jesus that Jesus had just broken the rules, that Jesus broke the rules of the Sabbath by working.

## **SHARE the Good News** (a.k.a. [\*The Destination\*](#))

- Jesus, though, knew better.
- Jesus told the leader of the congregation that healing someone was more important than the rules in that moment.
- That didn't mean the Sabbath rules weren't important, only that the rules needed to be paused, just like the rules in a sport are paused when someone gets hurt.
- And then, once the person is cared for, then the rules can start up again.
- Jesus words and actions remind us of the Good news for today.
- Even when it seems like the rules don't allow for it, God's healing is available for us at all times because we are more important to God than the rules are.
- And that is the good news for today
- Let's pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer...

## **CLOSING Prayer**

**Dear God,**

Dear God,

**Thank you for Jesus...**

Thank you for Jesus...

**...who shows us...**

...who shows us...

**...how you love us...**

...how you love us...

**...more than anything else.**

...more than anything else.

**Thank you and Amen**