



**OASIS: SHARE GOODNESS
DONE IN SYNC WITH
OUR "SHARE THIS" SERIES**
The Passage – Luke 6:6-11

Preface: Welcome to our LC Bible study in our new sermon series “Share This: Encountering Jesus Encountering Others.” These LC studies will complement the sermons, often using the same biblical texts, and will help your LC go deeper in personal understanding and application. These italicized portions are meant to resource and help you in leading and not to be distributed to the entire group (it limits conversation).

Study's BIG Idea: The time of God's right-doing is always now.

Opening Question/Transition:

Have you ever had a severe injury to your hand(s)? To your dominant hand? Describe that time as you were living with limited function and strength.

How about those annoying paper-cuts or hangnails and small cuts that remind you of your hands—what did they make you realize?

Luke 6:6-11

6 On another Sabbath he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. 7 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. 8 But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Get up and stand in front of everyone.” So he got up and stood there.

9 Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?”

10 He looked around at them all, and then said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was completely restored. 11 But they were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.

O – This scene takes place after Jesus allows his disciples to pick and eat grain as they were walking through a field on the Sabbath (the act of picking is forbidden). What gets your attention in these short verses of 6-16?

I – Why do you think Jesus keeps healing on the Sabbath? In this case, why can't He come back on Monday and avoid the conflict? Is He instigating? Is Jesus suggesting the Sabbath is obsolete? (*Because the time is now. This is consistent with Jesus' words in Matthew 3:2, “The Kingdom is at hand.” It's important not to miss what Jesus is doing. Sabbath keeping is the 4th Commandment but Jesus is not declaring that it's obsolete and antiquated. Rather, doing good is more glorifying to God.*)

O – From the text we see that the Pharisees were not interested in keeping the Sabbath but to remove Jesus. Why are the Pharisees so threatened by Jesus? Why didn't they want to join him? (*Jesus comes from outside their tradition. Also, He has not only captured the attention of the people but also threatens the influence/power of the Pharisees. The Pharisees do not see this as a spotlight to be shared.*)

I – Why does Jesus feel compelled to heal this man, anyway? It's a handicap; why doesn't Jesus encourage him to have faith and seek to overcome this physical limitation/adversity?

(Certainly Jesus could have done that but He had mercy on the man because with the function of his hand, he could work again, which would help him/his family and his dignity. God is glorified not only in the healing but also in the potential of this man's response.)

O – Describe the Pharisees' preconceived notions on Jesus and describe their reaction.

O – Describe the Pharisees' attitude towards the man with the withered hand.

(It's noteworthy that he is in the synagogue, possibly a regular, so likely they have allowed him to be among them. But upon seeing a miracle that a member of their faith community has been dramatically healed, they respond with... indignation towards Jesus and apathy towards him.)

I – Why are the Pharisees so offended by such an incredible miracle?

(They are threatened by Jesus' popularity, His moral authority and His mysterious power. Furthermore, they are afraid of how this will affect their power and perception.)

A – Do you see any traditions that get in the way of doing right things (in the name of Jesus)?

Do you see any traditions in the Church that interfere with Jesus' mission?

I – What is Jesus' point in verse 9?

(The time is now to do the good work of God. It also seems that Jesus is implying that it is potentially evil to refrain from glorifying God, caring for those in need and serving one another.)

I – Why do you think Jesus "shows off" the man?

(Jesus is not just simply showing off. He's also making a statement. When people like lepers were ceremonially unclean but then believe and were cured of leprosy, they were to show themselves to the priest to regain admittance into the community (see Lev. 13 & 14). This helped curtail the spread of the leprosy. While the man with the withered hand was not ceremonially unclean, his value in the community was lessened by his handicap. Jesus is not just restoring this man's hand but also his standing in the community.)

A – What are the actions and practices we can do now that share God's goodness to others?

Key: O – Observation. I – Interpretation. A – Application

- a. **Please note that not all these questions are to be asked in a single night.** Take some time and select and reword the questions that best fit your voice and your LIFE Community group. Certain questions work better for certain groups. You are encouraged to prayerfully discern what will serve your LC the best.
- b. Complement OIA questions with "process questions" (what else? what more? what do others think?).
- c. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. Wait. Take your time; don't rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- d. Timing/pacing: allocate your time and move forward gently, with a steady pace.
- e. Application: Pace the study to conclude with "difference making" application.
- f. Secondary texts—use other texts sparingly, even if they are relevant. Such texts will push you into "teaching," rather than facilitating. It can cause people to feel distracted or de-powered.