

THE SAVIOR OF THE WEAK

Matthew 12.15-21

LORD OF THE SABBATH

Conflict over the Sabbath was probably the second biggest confrontational topic between Jesus and the Pharisees, second only to His claim to be the Messiah. They had 39 extra categories of laws and regulations to keep the Sabbath, completely missing the point of the purpose of the Sabbath, which was to be a service and help to the Jews, not a burden.

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SERVANT OF GOD

Matthew quotes **Isaiah 43.1-3**, known as the Scripture about the "Suffering Servant." Here, Matthew draws from the Old Testament to show that Jesus has not come as a judgmental tyrant, but rather a suffering servant who came to heal the broken hearted and take the burden of sin. This is contrary to the kind of ministry the Pharisees were employing.

A BRUISED REED AND A SMOLDERING WICK

In a sermon on this Scripture, C.H. Spurgeon sees the bruised reed as someone who has just come under conviction and conversion for the first time; someone who finally sees their brokenness. He also sees the smoldering wick as a Christian who is at their wit's end, seemingly about to burn out. Not wanting to make too much delineation, he simply puts them together as a picture of believers who are weak and humbled.

Psalms 34.17-22

Both the bruised reed and the oak of righteousness are equally clothed in the same robe of Christ's righteousness, and both will equally share in His same victory.

Philippians 1.6 // Hebrews 6.13-20 // 2 Corinthians 12.8-10 // Hebrews 4.15, 16

**You are never beyond healing
unless you are beyond humbling.**

-John Piper



NOTES:

Will You Pray With Us?

Follow along with our daily prayer requests by downloading the **PrayerMate App**, available on both **iOS** and **Android** phones. Go to our website for detailed instructions on how to subscribe to the app to be praying with us daily, as well as reading through our **2 Year Bible Reading Plan**.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the green **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our teammates in a **Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll build friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6th grade** and is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **7th & 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to their class for the rest of service.

Our **High School students** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at hbarnes5@yahoo.com.

SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

CONTACT US:

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Twitter: @YourLifeMission
[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read Matthew 12:15-21. What stuck out to you in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

Read Psalms 34:17-22. According to C.H. Spurgeon, a "bruised reed" is a believer that is weak and humble. Why is a blessing when we are weak? _____

What burdens are you carrying that you need to give to Jesus? What weights you down? Is your past haunting you? Does your present suffocate you? Does your future scare you? Do you worry about your health failing you? Your sin entangling you? _____

Read Psalms 68:19, Psalms 55:22, 1 Peter 5:7 and Matthew 11:30. Where do you typically turn to when you are feel weak and burdened? Jesus? Or something else? Or both? And then answer, why do you not turn to Jesus if you believe that He can carry your burden? _____

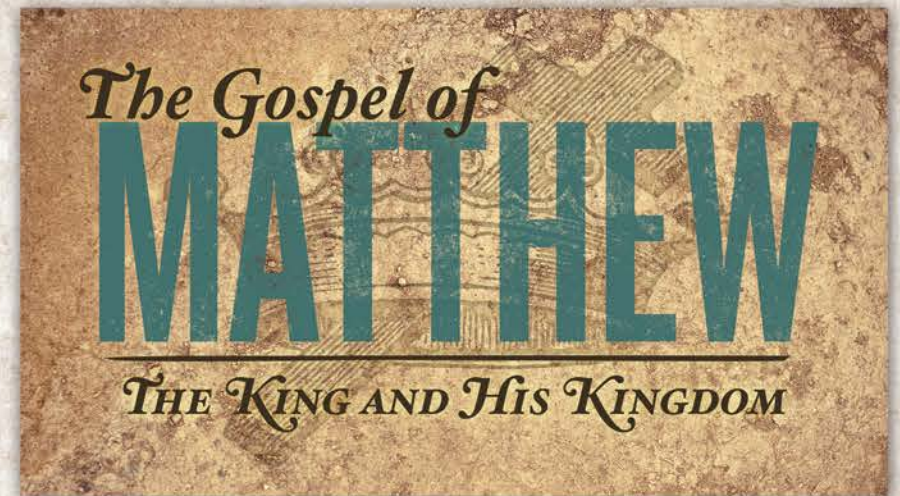
Read Romans 3:23, 1 Peter 3:18, 1 Peter 2:24, 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Isaiah 53:3-7. It's good to know and believe that Jesus helps us carry our daily burdens. But the better news is that Jesus carried our ultimate burden when He carried our sin on His back and put it to death on the cross. He is our Suffering Servant who bore our sins on the tree. How does knowing and remembering the Gospel empower you when you're weak and over-burdened? Give an example of when you did that, and what resulted. _____

Read Ephesians 2:4-10. What does verse 6 say that God does with "us", His "bruised reed"? _____

Read Revelation 5:1-12. Remind yourself that both in Heaven and on earth Jesus, the "Lamb that was slain" as the Suffering Servant. Jesus is worshiped because He suffered. Then pray both in your personal time of "abiding" and together in Community Group with this verse in mind. When you pray, Preach this passage into your heart and into your mind! Next, confess and Repent of the sin of so often not giving your burden to the Lord. Ask God to help you cast your cares to Him instead of running to other false gods. Pray that as His "bruised reed", God would be glorified in your life. Last, end with Thanksgiving and Yield to His will.



Equipping a Gospel-Centered Community in the Word of God,
To Live Out a Gospel-Centered Life Mission to the Glory of God.



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Matthew 12.15-21 // March 22, 2015

9AM & 11AM SERVICES

Life Mission Church Meets at Light & Life Christian School
1816 Oak Hill Drive, Escondido 92027