Subject: Mercy Triumphs Over Judgement

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church <vicar@stfrancisva.org>

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May 1, 2013

# **Mercy Triumphs Over Judgement**

Now it was the sabbath.

## John 5:9

### Was Jesus A Law-Breaker . . .

We read in a number of stories about Jesus that He angered and offended the religious authorities of the day by healing people on the sabbath. It seems that kind of activity was against the ancient Jewish laws. Yet He defied those leaders, "broke" the sabbath observance, and went ahead healing people on the sabbath. This raises a tricky question for us. We like to see the authorities put in their place while at the same time we can be worried that Jesus is watching us to make sure we do not step out of line. What was He doing?

# ... Or, A Life-Giver?

Obviously, I am going to say He is a life-giver. The sabbath was a time to keep holy. Holiness is simply the life of God flowing through us. The purpose of the sabbath is to connect your life with the life of God. To put it another way, the sabbath is for us to work from rest, not rest from work. Jesus is the kind of Person who thinks connect us with the life, mercy, grace, love, and power of God is more important than anything else, in fact it is the purpose of any Christian discipline we practice. What will you do to receive the life He wants to give you?e day by healing people on the sabbath. It seems that kind of activity was against the ancient Jewish laws. Yet He defied those leaders, "broke" the sabbath observance, and went ahead healing people on the sabbath. This raises a tricky question for us. We like to see the authorities put in their place while at the same time we can be worried that Jesus is watching us to make sure we do not step out of line. What was He doing?

## **Coming Attractions**

May 5, 2013 Worship at 10:00am

Sundays at St. Francis at 10:00am April 7-May 12

### WHO IS THIS?

Taking A Close Look At Jesus Sermons for Easter Season at St. Francis.

April 7 John 20:21-31 Jesus is the Whole Point

April 14 John 21:1-19 Jesus Opens Up Our Lives

April 21 John 10: 22-30 Jesus Speaks Deep Within Your Spirit and Your Soul

April 28 John 13:31-35 We Can Do What He Did

May 5 John 5:1-9 Jesus Breaks the Law to Heal the Sick

May 12 John 17:20-26 Jesus Chooses To Show Who He Is To The World

Through Us

Is there someone you know you would like to have take a closer look at Jesus? Invite them to come with you.

May 5, 2013 St. Francis Sponsoring Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing Haiti Mission Trip

The Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing (BSMCON) is planning a mission trip to Haiti on May 8-15, 2013. Their mission team is composed of 6 nursing students from their school, 3 faculty, and one alumni. They are offering the people of Haiti a chance to receive health care for their families that we may often take for granted. The Bon Secours team will serve thousands of individuals and families in one week's time!! Their team will care for a variety of individuals, including those who need a simple wellness check up to people who have life-altering diseases. Right now, they are looking for monetary donations to be put toward the medical mission trip expenses including housing, translators, travel fees, meals, and community donations (to be given to organizations in the community for food and clothing). They are very excited about this opportunity to serve the people of Haiti and make a small difference in their world.

One of our members at St. Francis, Jenna Nelson, is a nursing student with BSMCON and will be on this trip! St. Francis has agreed to support this humanitarian effort. You may make a donation by sending a check made out to "BSMCON--Mission Fund" with Jenna's name on the bottom memo line for reference. They appreciate all donations and prayers as they prepare for this medical mission trip!

June 7 & 8, 2013 St. Francis to Participate in the Goochland Relay for Life Goochland Elementary School Track 3150 River Road West Goochland, VA 23063

Each year Goochland County sponsors a Relay for Life event to help fight cancer. For the very first time, St. Francis will participate in this event to be held on the Goochland Elementary School track on June 7-8. Besides giving everyone an opportunity to fight cancer and help save more lives with donations, it gives St. Francis an opportunity to serve the community.

St. Francis' goal is \$1000. For every \$100 raised by May 13, the team receives a tee-shirt. Luminary candles are also available for \$10 to remember those afflicted by cancer.

Registration forms are in the vestibule of the church, or you may register online at www.relayforlife.org/goochlandva.

Check our website www.stfrancisva.org

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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