

Stowmarket Baptist Church

THURSDAY BIBLE CLUB

25 JUNE 2020

We hope that you enjoy this week's Bible story.

We are praying that you are all kept safe that that we can all meet up again on a Thursday soon.

Hello...

I hope that you've had good week and enjoyed the sunshine.



The flowers in my garden are looking very colourful now summer is here.



Love Jackie

We have another miracle of Jesus to think about this week, helping us to learn more of who Jesus really is. Have you noticed that all the people Jesus made better, were people no-one else was able to help?

This week's story comes from Luke chapter 13 verses 10 to 17, which says:

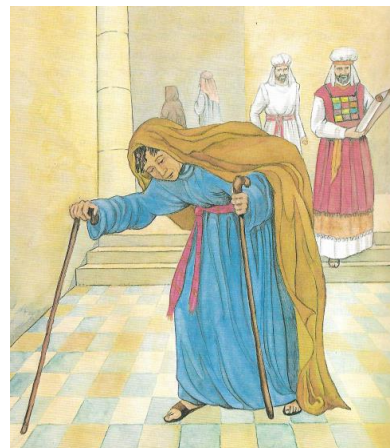
¹⁰ On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹ and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." ¹³ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. ¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

¹⁵ The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶ Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing

Today we are meeting a disabled woman. Her back was poorly that she was bent right over and could only look down at the ground. She had been like this for 18 years, unable to stand up straight or look up to the sky.

On the Sabbath day, she had gone to the synagogue (Jewish Church) to worship God. Jesus was there too. When Jesus saw her disabled body all bent over, he felt sorry for her and called her to come over. As she slowly walked towards Jesus, he said to her, "You are set free from our disability (illness)". Then Jesus gently put his hand on her back and immediately, she stood up straight, she lifted her head up and could see all around. How happy she must have been. She was delighted. How amazing! She could walk properly again.



The first thing the women did was to thank and praise God for this wonderful miracle. For 18 years she had been bent over, looking towards the ground, unable to look up. Now she was able to stand up straight and look all around. No wonder she wanted to praise God for his goodness and kindness towards her.

But do you know, no everyone in the synagogue was happy about what Jesus had done. Jesus had enemies (people who didn't like or believe in him) and some of them started to grumble about Jesus, because he had made this disabled woman better on the Sabbath day.

It's very hard to understand them, isn't it? But I think they were jealous because Jesus was able to make her well and they could not.

It is important that we keep the Sabbath holy (special for God), but this does not stop us being kind to others. Jesus said to his grumbling enemies, "You set free your donkey or ox on the Sabbath, so they can have a drink, so it's right that after 18 years of illness, I should set this woman free of her disability."

We may not have a disability like this women, but the Bible tells us we are all unable to love and worship God the way we should, because we have the disability of sin (that's all the wrong things we do, say or think). But if we come to Jesus and ask to be forgiven, he can make us able to worship and love God, the way we should, with all our heart. Jesus is very kind and he hears our prayers.

Dear Lord, Thank you for the miracles of making that disabled women well again. Help us to be sorry for our sin, so that we are able to love and worship you more. Amen.