

Discussion and Reflection Questions

The Brave Unknown Week 2 - Pentecost 11C 24th of August 2025

Read: Luke 13:10-17

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Questions

1. Why might Jesus teaching in the synagogue setting be significant for the events that follow?
2. How do you think this woman's physical condition would have impacted other areas of her life? What about her faith?
3. Why do you think Jesus calls the woman forward instead of healing her quietly?
4. The synagogue leader reacts strongly to Jesus healing on the Sabbath (v.14). How does their understanding of the Law differ from Jesus'?
5. The crowd rejoices at Jesus' actions, while the religious leaders feel humiliated (v.17). In our world today who would rejoice & who would feel humiliated by what Jesus teaches & does?
6. How does this story illustrate the kingdom of God breaking into everyday life, especially regarding freedom, healing, and restoration?
7. How does this passage relate to our current theme - the Brave Unknown?

Prayer

O God, the Judge of all, through the saving blood of your Son you have brought us to the heavenly Jerusalem and given us a kingdom which cannot be shaken: fill us with reverence and awe in your presence, that in thanksgiving we and all your Church may offer you acceptable worship; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives to intercede for us, now and for ever. Amen.