

Review:

**Lesson 1:** Breaking Ground

**Lesson 2:** Begin with Identity

**Lesson 3:** Building Community

**Lesson 4:** Spiritual Authority

**Lesson 5:** Touching the Untouchables

**Lesson 6:** Amazement

**Lesson 7:** For Whom are We Here?

**Lesson 8:** The Difference Jesus Makes

## The Spirit of the Law

Mark 2:23-28

*God's laws in the hands of men and women acting and thinking without God's Spirit in them, becomes twisted and defiled, and largely \_\_\_\_\_ at bringing about transformed lives.*

**Discussion 1.** Have you ever felt wrongfully condemned by someone's bad interpretation of a law (either God's law or man's law)? Have you ever wrongfully condemned someone else who you thought had violated a law? What can we do to not get caught in that trap?

*God's people are never more hypocritical than when we use God's laws to \_\_\_\_\_ people we do not like but ignore (or downplay) when people we do like violate those same laws.*

**Discussion 2.** Can you think of an example in your own life when you tended to judge a certain kind of person UNTIL you actually met one, and then you became less likely to judge them? Do you think it is important to actually know a person (and their story) before trying to apply God's law to their life?

*One of the changes Jesus ushered into this world is that God's laws are now written on the hearts of His people through the indwelling of His Spirit. We are now \_\_\_\_\_ the letter of the law and are informed by the Spirit of the law.*

**Discussion 3.** Even though we now have access to the Spirit of God within us, there are still ongoing disciplines in our lives that make that access easier and easier. What are those disciplines for you?

*When a Godly character in God's story clearly disagrees with my interpretation of right and wrong, it should at least give me reason to stop and reflect. When that character is Jesus, reflection is unnecessary. \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Discussion 4.** If ever there are choices in our lives that obviously disagree with Jesus, how do we resolve that? How does that process work for you?

**Discussion 5.** How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?