

Read Mark 3:1-6

1 Jesus went into the synagogue again and noticed a man with a deformed hand.

2 Since it was the Sabbath, Jesus' enemies watched him closely. If he healed the man's hand, they planned to accuse him of working on the Sabbath.

3 Jesus said to the man with the deformed hand, "Come and stand in front of everyone."

4 Then he turned to his critics and asked, "Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil? Is this a day to save life or to destroy it?" But they wouldn't answer him.

5 He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts. Then he said to the man, "Hold out your hand." So the man held out his hand, and it was restored!

6 At once the Pharisees went away and met with the supporters of Herod to plot how to kill Jesus.

What is a synagogue? The building where the Jewish people go to worship God. The Jewish church.

Who did Jesus run into the next time He went to the synagogue (v. 1)? A man with a shriveled-up hand

Why were the Pharisees watching Jesus closely (v. 2)? To see if He would break their law by healing the man on the Sabbath. They thought that healing the man would be the same as working and no one was allowed to work on the Sabbath. Which was ridiculous.

When Jesus had the man stand up, what did He ask the Pharisees (v. 4)? Is it okay to do good things on the Sabbath like heal someone?

Why didn't they answer? They didn't know how to answer the question. They were probably ashamed or embarrassed.

What would have happened if the Pharisees had answered, "No, it's not okay to heal on the Sabbath?" That would have made the people mad because they wouldn't let Jesus heal a sick person on the Sabbath.

What would have happened if they had answered "Yes, it's okay to heal on the Sabbath." That would have made the other Jewish leaders mad at them for not following their law.

They were stuck between a rock and a hard place. Jesus often asked questions like this to make the Jewish leaders look foolish.

Why was Jesus sad and angry with them (v. 5)? Their hearts were stubborn and hard. They refused to believe in Jesus. **Do you have a hard heart or a soft heart?** Ezekiel 36:26

What did Jesus do? He healed the man.

What did the Pharisees do when they saw the miracle that Jesus did (v. 6)? They went away and tried to figure out how to kill Him. They hated Jesus. How sad!