

Student Activity
Reproducible Pages

Summer Quarter
2018

Justice in the
New Testament

JUSTICE AND SABBATH LAWS

Lesson 1, Matthew 12:1-14, NIV

STRANGE SUNDAY LAWS

The following unusual laws related specifically to Sundays are on the books (but probably not enforced). Can you guess which state passed each law? Circle the correct answer.

1. You cannot buy meat of any kind. (Washington, Oregon, Nevada)
2. You may not sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same customer. (Deleware, Vermont, Rhode Island)
3. Dominoes may not be played. (Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas)
4. Unmarried women who parachute on Sunday risk arrest, fine, and/or jail. (Virginia, Tennessee, Florida)
5. No one may walk around with an ice cream-cone in his/her pocket. (New York, Texas, New Mexico)
6. No work may be done on Sunday (unless you believe that Saturday should be observed as the Sabbath). (North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky)
7. No member of the clergy is allowed to tell jokes or humorous stories from the pulpit during a church service. (North Dakota, South Dakota, West Virginia)
8. It is illegal to fish for whales. (California, Alaska, Ohio)

HOW DO THEY COMPARE?

After reading Matthew 12:1-14, select the correct symbol to show how the two answers compare. Is the first one greater than (>), equal to (=), or less than (<) the second one? Circle the correct answer.

1. David eating consecrated bread that was only for the priests	> = <	1. The disciples plucking and eating grain on the Sabbath
2. The priests obeying the law to rest on the Sabbath	> = <	2. The priests obeying God's command to offer sacrifices on the Sabbath
3. David	> = <	3. Jesus
4. Jesus	> = <	4. The temple
5. The Pharisees' ideas about how to keep the Sabbath	> = <	5. Jesus' ideas about how to keep the Sabbath
6. Healing a man on the Sabbath	> = <	6. Rescuing a sheep on the Sabbath
7. God the Father who created the Sabbath	> = <	7. Jesus, as the Lord of the Sabbath

PARABLES OF GOD'S JUST KINGDOM

Lesson 2, Matthew 13:24-33, NIV

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Identify which of the following statements are actually true.

- T F 1. Putting salt in water makes it boil more quickly.
- T F 2. Frankenstein was the name of the monster in Mary Shelley's book *Frankenstein*.
- T F 3. Both dolphins and porpoises are mammals.
- T F 4. Bulls are enraged by the color red.
- T F 5. The tomato is a fruit.
- T F 6. Your blood is blue before it is oxygenated.
- T F 7. Handling a baby bird will make its mother reject it.
- T F 8. The forbidden fruit mentioned in Genesis was an apple.
- T F 9. The word *sushi* means "sour-tasting," not "raw fish."
- T F 10. There is a dark side of the moon.
- T F 11. Your fingernails continue to grow after you die.
- T F 12. The Great Wall of China cannot be seen from space.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

How might you use one of the three parables from today's text to correct the misunderstandings of the following people?

Thomas: "Our church is small and insignificant. How can we possibly have any impact on our community?"

Carla: "I'm just not interested in world missions. It seems so far removed from my everyday life."

Rosalie: "I don't understand why a loving God would allow so much evil to exist in the world. Why doesn't he just wipe out all the bad people?"

JESUS TEACHES ABOUT JUSTICE

Lesson 3, Matthew 15:1-9, NIV

LOOKING FOR LOOPHOLES

Can you guess the outcome of the following situation in which someone tried to find and use a loophole to his benefit?

In 1999 civil engineer David Phillips noticed a promotion on his Healthy Choice frozen dinner. Anyone who sent in 10 Healthy Choice® barcodes would get 1,000 frequent flyer miles. He found a cheap product in the HC line—pudding—so he got a van and bought every cup of HC pudding he could find—12,150 in all. To avert suspicion at stores, he said he was stocking up for Y2K. He also got the Salvation Army to peel off the barcodes for him in exchange for donating the pudding, which earned him an \$800 tax deduction.

A. Lawyers for Healthy Choice found a loophole themselves and said they only had to give out 1,000 miles per person.

B. Healthy Choice, caught off guard, resisted at first, but ended up forking over the 1.25 million miles to Phillips.

C. While refusing to pay up, the company offered Phillips and his family an all-expenses-paid vacation in Hawaii.

EXCUSES, EXCUSES!

Like the Pharisees, we can sometimes find “good” reasons for ourselves for not obeying the commands of God. What excuses have you made for breaking the following commands?

Put God first. _____

Honor parents. _____

Tell the truth. _____

What is one way you can change this tendency to make excuses for yourself? _____

REAPING GOD'S JUSTICE

Lesson 4, Luke 16:19-31, NIV

TURNABOUT IS FAIR PLAY

To perform this reading of Jesus' parable, you'll need a Narrator (N), a rich man (RM), Lazarus (L), and Abraham (A). The instructions in italics show the characters how to act out the parts.

N: There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. *(RM looks proud and appears to be enjoying a big meal.)*

N: At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores. *(L is helped in by N, looking very pitiful and appearing to be in pain.)*

N: And longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. *(L holds out hands to RM, who waves him away and ignores him.)*

N: Even the dogs came and licked his sores. *(L holds up stuffed dog that licks his arm.)*

N: The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. *(L falls into chair dead but slowly rises with big smile and is embraced by Abraham.)*

N: The rich man also died and was buried. *(RM falls into chair dead, then on knees awake.)*

N: In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up. *(RM fans self as though very hot.)*

N: And saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. *(RM lifts hand to eyes, looking up.)*

RM *(crying loudly):* So he called to him, "Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire." *(As RM speaks, L is pointing to himself as though saying, "Who, me?!")*

A: Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things. *(L looks sad and nods as though saying, "Yes, that's right!")*

A: But now he is comforted here and you are in agony. *(L grins broadly.)*

A: And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us. *(As A is speaking, L peers down with wide eyes, motions back and forth with his hands, and vigorously shakes his head no.)*

RM: Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment. *(L is shaking his head as though saying, "No, no! I don't want to go!")*

A: They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them. *(L nods yes and points to his ear.)*

RM: No, father Abraham, . . .but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.

A: If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead. *(L shakes his head no, shrugs shoulders, as though saying, "It's too late.")*

DIFFERENT KINDS OF "POOR"

Which kind of poor person are you best at helping? What will you do this week to help?

Physically poor: "Whoever is kind to the needy honors God" (Proverbs 14:31b).

Emotionally poor: "The feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty." —Teresa of Calcutta

Spiritually poor: "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10).

PARABLE OF THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

Lesson 5, Matthew 18:21-35, NIV

WHAT A LOSS!

In the table below, make a list of the significant losses in your life, and consider where you are at in the process of forgiving the people who caused those losses.

What happened?	What was lost?	Who caused it?	Have you grieved what was lost? Does this loss still have power over you?	Are you moving toward forgiving the person who caused this loss? Why or why not?

GET THE FLOW

Use the following chart to track the flow of what happened in the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant as you summarize the text on the lines given.

❖ Action: _____ → ◆ Plea: _____



◆ Action: _____ ← ❖ Reaction: _____



□ Plea: _____ → ◆ Reaction: _____



❖ Consequences: _____

‡ Analogy: _____

JESUS CRITICIZES UNJUST LEADERS

Lesson 6, Matthew 23:1-4, 23-26, NIV

THE SPICES OF LIFE

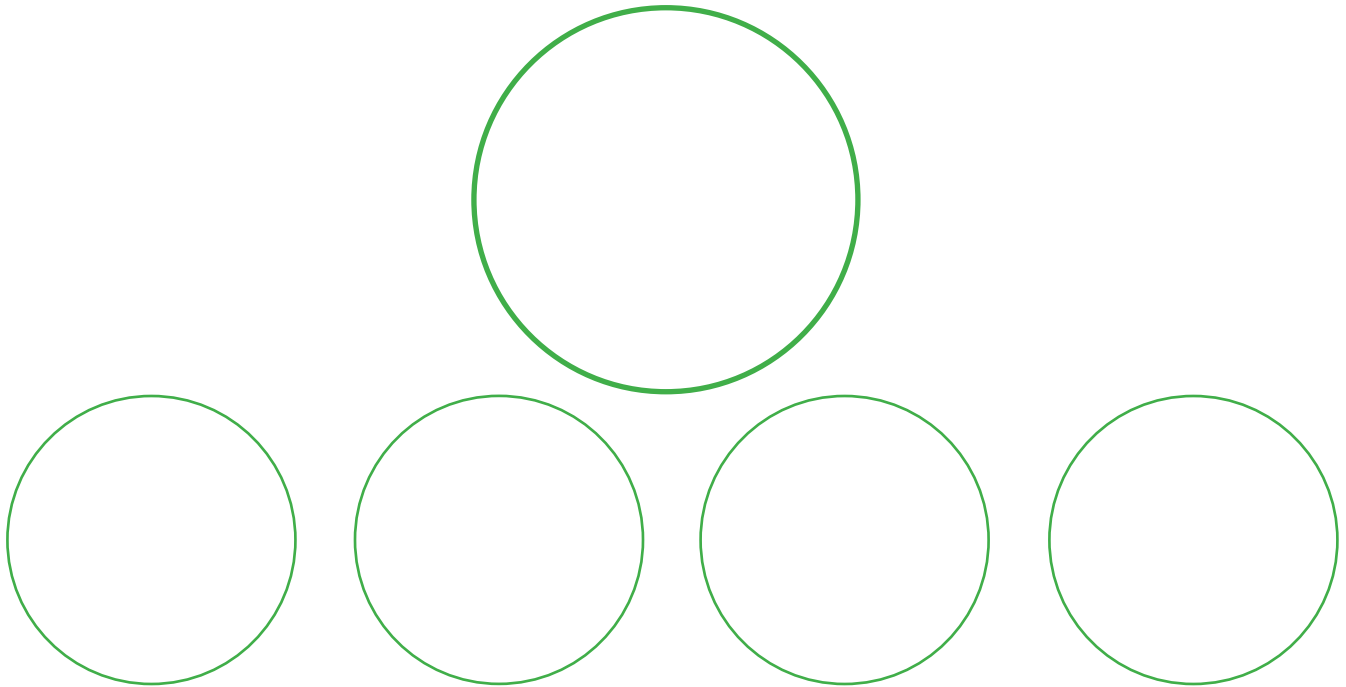
In the large circle below, you will receive a small amount of one of the following spices from your teacher.

Salt

Pepper

Cinnamon

Sugar



SPICE MATCH

Match the spices below with the food item with which the spice is commonly used.



NUTMEG



FENNEL



CURRY



OREGANO



PAPRIKA



DILL



GINGER



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THE WIDOW AND THE UNJUST JUDGE

Lesson 7, Luke 18:1-8, NIV

THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

The purpose of the widow's persistent prayer was justice. Jesus promised at the end of the parable that God would be faithful to accomplish justice to those who cry out to Him day and night.

Fill in the chart below in regard to some injustices you're aware of that are going on in the lives of people, perhaps even your own. Name the individual who is being affected by this injustice. Place a check mark after each time you pray for this individual. After praying, write in some small action steps that the person can take, or you can take on that person's behalf, to address the injustice that's happening.

	Name	Prayer	Action
Bullying			
Imbalance of Power			
Domestic Violence			
Illegal Activity			
Elder Abuse			
Job Discrimination			
False Accusations			
Vow Breaking			

ANSWERS TO PRAYER

Fill in the chart below regarding things you've been praying about.

	Your prayer request	When you first started praying	When the prayer was answered	Still waiting for an answer
Finances				
Family				
Friends				
Relationships				
Vocation				
Transportation				
Housing				
Salvation of loved ones				
Ministry opportunities				
Dreams				

ENTERING GOD'S KINGDOM

Lesson 8, Luke 13:22-30, NIV

ALL POINTS ON THE COMPASS

Jesus said that people will come from east and west and north and south to enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

On the map below, jot down some notes for prayers in regard to what you know is happening with Christians in particular countries. [For instance: Christians in Europe are facing significant spiritual apathy from those outside of the kingdom; Christians in North America are to be encouraged in helping their brothers and sisters in Christ in Third World countries.]



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FIRST AND LAST

Complete the following word-search puzzle, looking for words that are often used to describe people who are “first” in terms of the world’s standards.

Look for these words:
Money Power
Prestige Status
Yacht Mansion
Title Luxury
Premium







Y	E	N	O	M	E	N	L	H	Y	L	E	D	H	X
D	L	F	X	D	W	B	H	J	I	G	Q	B	W	L
Q	H	R	Y	J	O	V	Q	C	I	S	E	S	E	I
B	O	N	W	P	E	L	I	T	E	T	G	H	U	H
R	B	Q	O	N	R	N	S	J	C	A	B	B	V	X
R	H	P	X	X	X	E	B	O	R	T	L	A	E	T
R	E	G	Z	B	R	D	M	D	U	O	O	E	T	C
H	Y	W	O	P	K	O	Z	I	F	S	N	I	Q	Q
M	Z	B	O	H	Q	G	L	Y	U	S	K	L	E	F
F	L	T	U	P	X	J	H	M	E	M	U	L	U	R
P	D	A	M	V	W	A	N	X	D	X	T	Y	T	M
A	K	Y	I	M	O	F	O	Z	U	I	H	T	E	N
M	A	N	S	I	O	N	R	R	T	B	C	X	L	X
R	Q	T	L	U	G	J	Y	Q	J	K	A	K	G	U
O	Y	Y	Y	R	I	V	J	O	N	E	Y	X	G	P

PARABLE OF THE GREAT DINNER

Lesson 9, Luke 14:15-24, NIV

FACE VALUE

Match the coins with their values. Depending on condition, the Indian Head penny could be worth more than all the others combined. Two Mercury dimes would buy a tank of gas in 1929; and today—if sold for their worth—they’d still buy a tank of gas. What determines value? What or who do we take at “face value,” not seeing their true worth?

1.		\$1.00 .05	4.	
2.		\$2.00 \$30.00	5.	
3.		.01 .10	6.	

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PARABLE DETAILS

First, what is the spiritual meaning behind the following six details of the story? Second, what is my personal take-away?

Parable Detail	Spiritual Meaning	My Take-Away
The host		
First invitees		
Second invitees		
Third invitees		
The big house and meal		
The closed invitation		

GOD'S JUSTICE

Lesson 10, Romans 2:1-12, NIV

BLIND JUSTICE

Who is this? What do her sword, scales, and blindfold symbolize?



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TRUTHS AND CONSEQUENCES

Go through the text verse-by-verse and identify the truths of what people do and the consequences of those actions.

TRUTHS	CONSEQUENCES

GIVING JUSTLY

Lesson 11, 2 Corinthians 8:7-15, NIV

MISSION: MONEY

Paul wrote 2 Corinthians while on his third missionary journey (c. AD 54 to 58). Draw a line tracing the route of this journey, based on Acts 18:23 to 21:17. In addition to the church in Corinth, the churches in the Macedonian cities of Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea likely gave generously for the relief effort, according to 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. Draw lines from these four cities to Jerusalem to visualize the flow of benevolent support.



CASE STUDIES

Read the following case studies and then write one of your own.

- #1. A father is recovering from cancer. His son will have to drop out of college just weeks before graduation to get a job and buy food. They receive a few hundred dollars anonymously. It's enough to get by until graduation.
- #2. A missionary couple working in Japan raises their two children to adulthood, then adopts three more, one of them handicapped.
- #3. A woman in her 80s turns her home into an Operation Christmas Child "factory" where dozens of people contribute to and assemble Christmas boxes. Total boxes during a decade? Over 6,000.
- #4. _____

LOVING AND JUST BEHAVIOR

Lesson 12, Romans 12:9-21, NIV

SHIRT AND SHOES REQUIRED

Every day and everywhere we have rules to follow. Some are posted, some written as instructions, some announced over a loudspeaker, and others just understood as necessary for a civilized society. Briefly explain why these rules—and others you can recall—might be useful.

Shirt and shoes required _____

No wake _____

No chewing gum _____

Mind your head _____

Posted: no hunting _____

Park closes at sunset _____

Enter quietly _____

Others: _____

THE GOOD NEWS POST

Make up a story reporting good news, based on one of today's directives. The first story is based on Romans 12:10.

FOLKS IN TOWN GET ALONG

All residents of Williamstown got along today. Kind affection and brotherly love broke out like the plague. Hundreds of citizens wanted to enjoy each other's company. The new coffee shop, Beans, reported standing room only and Elmer's Country Store sold out of some flavors of ice cream.

"Our best day ever," said Elmer. "We have an overnight shipment coming in: coffee toffee, bubble gum, and three more flavors. We'll need to expand our hours if this keeps up!"

MAN SURPRISES ENEMY WITH PARTY AND GIFTS

NO SUITS! LAW FIRM HAPPILY CLOSES DOORS

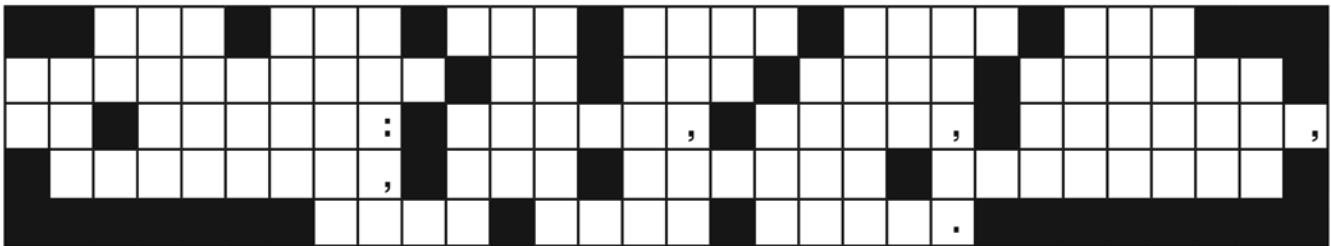
PEACE ERUPTS IN INNER CITY

PRACTICING JUSTICE

Lesson 13, Colossians 3:5-17, NIV

PUZZLED

Today’s text describes aspects of our fallen nature that are to be left behind—permanently. But the words of one verse of Scripture have fallen out of the boxes below. Your task is to reconstruct this fallen text to reveal God’s will for our fallen nature. The letters arranged vertically below the puzzle grid can be used **ONLY** in the squares directly above them, one each. Do not put letters in the squares with punctuation marks. Hint: Start with short words, but there are no instances of *the*.



E G M U
 A T S F M N F F R T I Y S H L D
 O B U N D L V E Y O D U I L L A P L H N G I N C E
 Y S L T S E E O W O A N Y O A L L T H A C S O T R U A G E
 A S U R H E N R R S A O U E R U S R S G E L A M A I I G S

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Colossians 3:8

SOUNDS LIKE/LOOKS LIKE

Choose one of Paul’s imperatives. If you only had your sense of hearing, what would it sound like for someone to practice that virtue? Write down your responses. If you only had your sense of vision, how would you know if someone was practicing that virtue? What would it look like?

Sounds Like	Looks Like

Lesson 1

Strange Sunday Laws: 1=Washington. 2=Rhode Island. 3=Alabama. 4=Florida. 5=New York. 6=South Carolina. 7=West Virginia. 8=Ohio.

How Do They Compare? 1. equal to. 2. < less than. 3. < less than. 4. > greater than. 5. < less than. 6. > greater than. 7. equal to.

Lesson 2

What Do You Know? 1=F. Salt water requires more exposure to the heat in order to boil than water alone, so the boiling point is elevated and the time it takes to get the water to boil increases. 2=F. Frankenstein was the name of the monster's creator. 3=T. 4=F. It is a proven fact that bulls only see blues and yellow. They only react to the red cape because of its movements. 5=T. 6=F. Human blood is always red, although the level of redness does differ depending on how oxygenated it is. 7=F. Most birds have a very poor sense of smell, so in most cases are unable to even notice human scent on a baby bird. 8=F. The Bible never mentions what type of fruit was forbidden. 9=T. 10=F. As the moon is constantly rotating on its own axis, there is no area of it that is in permanent darkness. 11=F. The dehydration of the body after death can cause retraction of the skin around hair and nails, giving the illusion that they have grown. 12=T.

Lesson 3

Looking for Loopholes: B.

Lesson 6

Spice Match: Nutmeg=eggnog. Fennel=sausage. Curry=Indian dishes. Oregano=pizza. Paprika=deviled eggs. Dill=pickles. Ginger=Chinese dishes.

Lesson 8

First and Last:

Y E N O M E N L H Y L E D H X
 D L F X D W B H J I G Q B W L
 Q H R Y J O V Q C I S E S E I
 B O N W P E L I T E T G H U H
 R B Q O N R N S J C A B B V X
 R H P X X X E B O R T L A E T
 R E G Z B R D M D U U O E T C
 H Y W O P K O Z I F S N I Q Q
 M Z B O H Q G L Y U S K L E F
 F L T U P X J H M E M U L U R
 P D A M V W A N X D X T Y T M
 A K Y I M O F O Z U I H T E N
 M A N S I O N R R T B C X L X
 R Q T L U G J Y Q J K A K G U
 O Y Y Y R I V J O N E Y X G P

Lesson 9

Face Value: 1=.05 Jefferson nickel. 2=\$30.00 Indian Head penny. 3=.10 Roosevelt dime. 4=\$1.00 Buffalo nickel. 5=\$2.00 Mercury dime. 6=.01 Lincoln penny.

Lesson 10

Blind Justice: A representation of the ancient Roman goddess Justitia. The sword=law. The scales=equity. The blindfold=impartiality.

Truths and Consequences: Answers may vary.

- (1) Some people pass judgment on others; they condemn themselves in return.
- (2) Those who judge are guilty of the same sins; they will not escape God's judgment.
- (3) Some people are stubborn and have unrepentant hearts; they are storing up wrath against themselves.
- (4) Some people persist in doing good; they will receive eternal life.
- (5) Other people reject truth and follow evil; they will receive wrath and anger.
- (6) Some people do evil; they will receive trouble and distress.
- (7) Other people do good; they will receive glory, honor, and peace.

Lesson 11

Mission: Money



Lesson 13

Puzzled: But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips (Colossians 3:8).