

Daily Homily  
Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time, Monday  
11 September 2023  
[USCCB Daily Readings](#)

Jesus knew their intentions, He knew the questions in the minds and hearts of the Pharisees who were present that day. The major question: Will He violate the Sabbath by doing work on the Sabbath?

I love this about Jesus. He doesn't deal with questions directly. He instead, reframes them. He doesn't deal with work on the Sabbath, rather he talks about doing good.

The detail of the Gospel is significant. It was the man's right hand that was withered. His right hand is the only hand in which he can extend to another, in which he would conduct business. His right hand was his link to the community. It was only with the right hand that you could respectfully touch the Torah. Because in that culture, even to this day, the left hand would never be extended to another person since it was considered disrespectful. The left hand was used for sanitary purposes.

If the Sabbath is about community coming together and offering praise to God together, then Jesus did a good in helping this man with a withered right hand to join in the Sabbath completely.

Jesus reframes the question ... it's not about work... it's about the good of another. (Sounds like a definition of love that we heard this past weekend).

Do you have any questions for the Lord... about your life... your spiritual standing... your hopes... give them to the Lord, and let him, perhaps, reframe them, redirect them toward the good that they need to go.