



[Luke 13:10-11](#)

(10) On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, (11) and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all.

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Though physically disabled and disfigured by her stooped spine, she, just like the man with the withered hand ([Luke 6:6](#)), does not allow her problem to keep her from formal worship of [God](#) on the [Sabbath](#). Her physical condition makes it very difficult for her to go to the synagogue and sit through the service. It is also humbling for her, since people often feel awkward around those with disfigurements. She goes anyway.

Surely, she has prayed and asked God for help, yet she has not been delivered. However, God's seemingly neglectful and unconcerned lack of intervention does not make her bitter or resentful. She attends synagogue despite the obstacles, appreciating her spiritual opportunities and cherishing the worship of God. Her dedication and [faithfulness](#) do not go unrewarded.

How many blessings do people give up when they skip going to church? Spiritually and physically, we benefit by regularly attending where we can hear God's Word and worship Him in spirit and in [truth](#) ([John 4:23-24](#)). This woman learns that the best help she can give her body is to be first concerned about her spiritual health. Had she not been concerned enough about her spiritual needs to be in the synagogue in spite of her condition, she would never have been healed. As [Jesus](#) promises, "Seek first the [kingdom of God](#) and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" ([Matthew 6:33](#)).

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Healing a Stooped Woman \(Part One\)](#)

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Luke 13:10-11 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

Related Topics:

[Kingdom of God, Seeking First](#)

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