

Sermon on Luke 13:10–17



1 Equipping

*We provide training & advice
to support churches*

2 Resourcing

*We develop resources
to support churches*

3 Connecting

*We build communities
to support churches*

Find out more at our booth after the service

***Disability in Singapore
is rising***



**1 out of 6 people worldwide
have a significant disability**

(World Health Organisation)





***We must make disciples
of people
with special needs***



How should we worship?

Luke 13:10-11 (Easy English Bible)

***¹⁰ One day, Jesus was teaching in a Jewish meeting place.
It was the Jewish day of rest.***

***¹¹ There was a woman there who had a bad spirit inside her.
It had lived in her for 18 years and it had made her weak.
Her back was bent. She could not stand up straight.***

Luke 13:12-13 (Easy English Bible)

¹² Jesus saw her and he called her to come to him.

He said, 'Woman, your illness has left you.'

¹³ He put his hands on her and immediately she could stand up straight. She praised God.

Luke 13:14 (Easy English Bible)

14 But the leader of the meeting place was angry because Jesus had made a sick person well on their day of rest.

He said to the people there, 'There are six days each week when we should work. Come on any of those days and get well. But you should not come on our day of rest to get well.'

Luke 13:15a (Easy English Bible)

¹⁵ The Lord Jesus said to him,

“You are wrong. You teach one thing but you do something different yourselves.”

Luke 13:15b–16 (Easy English Bible)

15 “On the day of rest you will undo the rope on your ox or your donkey and take it outside. You then give it water to drink. Is that not true?”

16 “Now look at this woman. She belongs to the family of Abraham. But a bad spirit from the devil has made her ill for 18 years. It is like he has tied her up. So it must be right to make her free on our day of rest.”

Luke 13:17 (Easy English Bible)

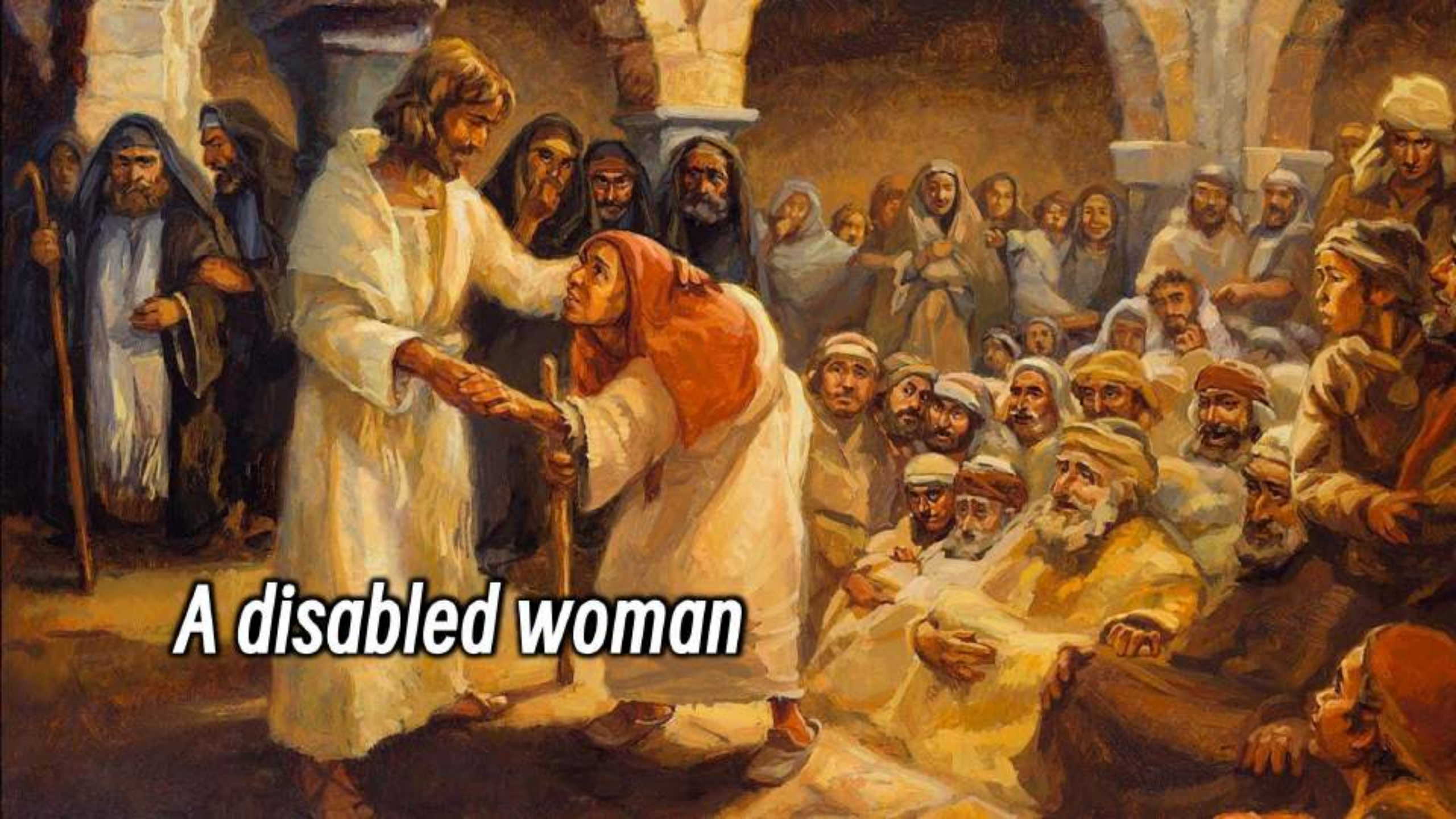
17 These words made the people who spoke against him feel ashamed.

But the other people there were very happy. They were happy because they had seen Jesus do many good and powerful things.

*A story about **worship**:*

*"Jesus was teaching in a Jewish meeting place.
It was the Jewish day of rest." (Luke 13:10)*



A painting depicting a biblical scene where Jesus, with long brown hair and a white robe, is healing a woman. The woman, wearing a white robe and a red headscarf, is kneeling and holding a wooden staff. Jesus is placing his hand on her shoulder and the other on her arm. A large crowd of people, including men, women, and children, are gathered around them, watching the miracle. The setting appears to be an outdoor area with stone walls and arches in the background. The painting is done in a realistic style with warm, earthy tones.

A disabled woman

Luke 13:13, 17 (Easy English Bible)

¹³ He put his hands on her and immediately she could stand up straight. She praised God.

Luke 13:13, 17 (Easy English Bible)

*¹³ He put his hands on her and immediately she could stand up straight. **She praised God.***

*¹⁷ ... But the other people there were **very happy**. They were happy because they had seen Jesus do many good and powerful things.*

Luke 13:14 (Easy English Bible)

14 But the leader of the meeting place was angry because Jesus had made a sick person well on their day of rest.

He said to the people there, 'There are six days each week when we should work. Come on any of those days and get well. But you should not come on our day of rest to get well.'

Luke 13:14 (Easy English Bible)

14 But the leader of the meeting place was angry because Jesus had made a sick person well on their day of rest.

He said to the people there, 'There are six days each week when we should work. Come on any of those days and get well. But you should not come on our day of rest to get well.'



*To the leader,
the disabled woman **disturbed and disrupted worship***



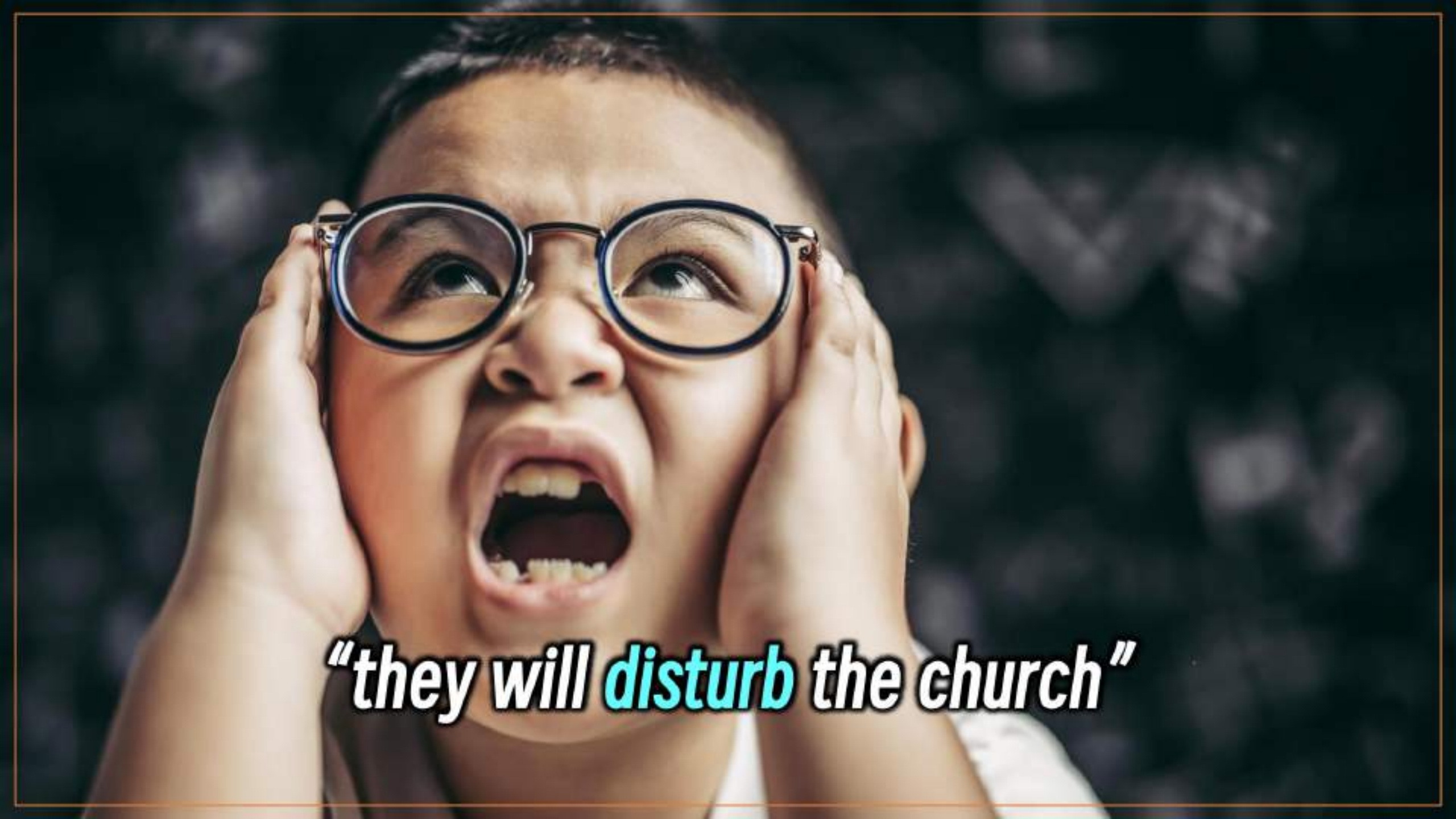
***Do we see caring for
people with special needs
as disrupting worship?***

A young girl with autism is the central focus of the image. She has dark hair styled in two buns with light blue ribbons. She is holding a blue pen in her right hand and a white piece of paper in her left. On the paper is a colorful drawing of a unicorn with a rainbow mane and tail. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. In the background, a teacher with long dark hair and glasses is blurred, and another student is also blurred. The setting appears to be a classroom.

“the special child will **disrupt** the class”



“it **distracts** from the ‘real work’ of the church”

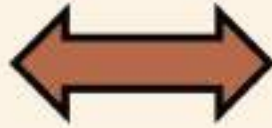
A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair and round black-rimmed glasses. She has a shocked or screaming expression, with her mouth wide open showing her teeth. Her hands are pressed against her cheeks, framing her face. The background is dark and out of focus, with some faint, blurry light patterns. The overall tone is dramatic and intense.

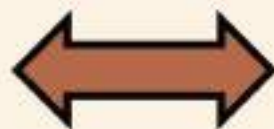
“they will **disturb** the church”



The sad assumption is:

worship ≠ welcoming people with special needs





Are **we** getting worship wrong too?

Deuteronomy 5:12–14 (Easy English Bible)

***12 Always make the Sabbath day a special day for God,
as the Lord your God has commanded you.***

13 You have six days every week to do all your work.

14 But the seventh day is a Sabbath day.

It is special for the Lord your God.

You must not do any work on that day.

Deuteronomy 5:15 (Easy English Bible)

15 You must remember that you were slaves in Egypt.

***But I, the Lord your God, brought you out
by my powerful authority.***

***So, the Lord your God has told you
to make the Sabbath day a special day.***

The big idea of Sabbath is **salvation**



Matthew 9:13

*"I desire **mercy**, not sacrifice."*

(English Standard Version)

Matthew 9:13

*"I desire **mercy**, not sacrifice."*

(English Standard Version)

*"I want people to **be kind to each other**.*

I do not want them only to offer sacrifices to me."

(Easy English Version)



***The Bible's answer is:
We worship God by loving others***

Disability inclusion is worship!



A photograph showing three people in a warm, indoor setting. A man in a red shirt is holding a smartphone, and a man in a plaid shirt and a woman in a dark blue dress are looking at the screen with smiles. In the background, another man in a white shirt is partially visible. The image has a soft, warm light and a thin orange border.

Worship God through love :
1. Befriend a person with special needs

Survey Question: "How can we be a friend to you?"

“

Say “hi” to me

“

Listen to me

“

***Hear me out first.
Don't jump straight into telling
me about God and the Bible!***

Survey Question: "How can we be a friend to you?"

“

***Understand my
interests***

“

***Give me
words of encouragement
to press on***

“

***Listen to
my struggles***

Survey Question: "How can we be a friend to you?"

“

***Talk to me
patiently***

“

***Be seen
with me***

“

***Let me feel that
I am not invisible***



Worship God through love :

2. Welcome them to join the church in our activities

Which will God prefer?



Option 1

Which will God prefer?



Option 1



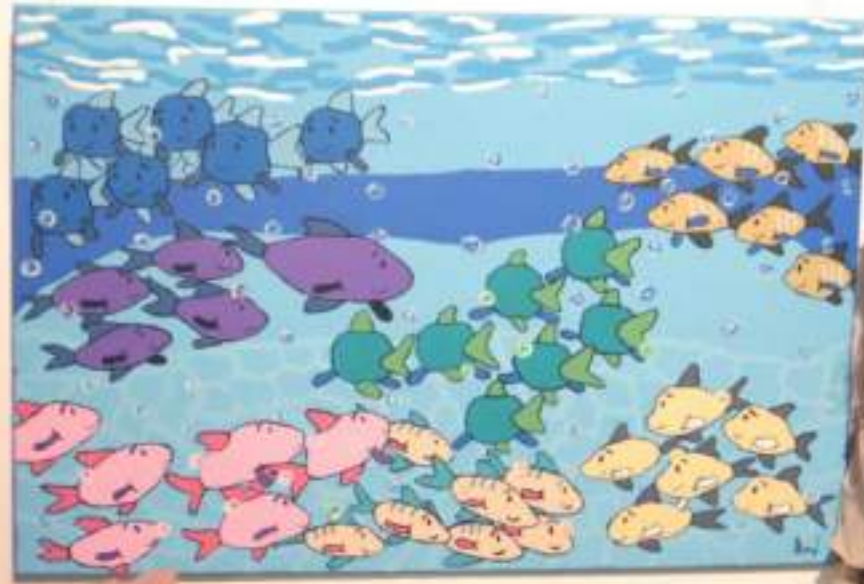
Option 2

A young man with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue shirt, is seated in a wheelchair. He is smiling warmly at the camera and has his right hand extended forward in a gesture of openness. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor space with large windows.

Worship God through love :
3. Let people with special needs serve you

Aaron







A young man with short dark hair, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue shirt, is seated in a wheelchair. He is smiling warmly at the camera and has his right hand extended forward in a gesture of openness. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor space with large windows.

Worship God through love :
3. Let people with special needs serve you



CHRIST

CHURCH
1753

MELAKA

The image shows the interior of a large church. A central aisle with a blue carpet leads from the foreground towards the altar at the far end. On either side of the aisle are rows of dark wooden pews. The church walls are white with tall, arched windows. Several black speakers are mounted on the walls and ceiling. The ceiling is high and features large, white, three-bladed fans. At the far end of the church, there is an altar area with a blue cloth and a red cross on the wall behind it. The overall atmosphere is bright and clean.

TODAY'S SERMON

We worship God by including people with special needs

The background image shows the interior of a large, modern church. The space is filled with rows of dark wooden pews. The walls are white with blue accents, and the ceiling is high with exposed wooden beams and modern lighting fixtures. At the far end, a large cross is visible on the altar. The overall atmosphere is bright and open.

TODAY'S SERMON

We worship God by including people with special needs

1. Befriend them

2. Welcome them to join our activities

3. Let them serve us too