

“DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?”

John 5:1-15

Series: “What Do You Want?” ...Encounters with Jesus

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INTRODUCTION:

A. We are returning to our winter study of the life of Christ.

B. We're now in John 5.

- 1) Still early in the ministry of Jesus.
- 2) A flash point, beginning the negative relationship with religious leaders.
- 3) Jesus encounters a disabled man.
- 4) There's wonderful application for us regarding spiritual healing.

SCRIPTURE

[Jhn 5:1-15 NIV] 1 Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.

2 Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.

3 Here a great number of disabled people used to lie--the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.

4 5 One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

A. DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?

6 When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him,

“Do you want to get well?”

Some people don't!

7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

B. GET UP

8 Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."

9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The doorway to spiritual healing is almost always obedience.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, 10 and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat."

11 But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' "

12 So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?" 13 The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

C. STOP SINNING

14 Later Jesus found him at the temple...

...and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." 15 The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

There's something worse than being physically disabled: being spiritually incapacitated. Jesus wants the man spiritually healed for the man's own good and for God's glory.

APPLICATION

If you're spiritually "stuck," incapacitated, remember the three things Jesus said to the disabled man. Are they possibly the same three things he would say to you today?

A. Do you want to get well?

Stop playing the victim, making excuses.

B. Get up.

Do the things you know Jesus commands you to do in His Word. The doorway to healing is obedience. Take the first step.

C. Stop sinning.

Jesus, the Great Physician, wants to see you spiritually healed. To honor Him and stay spiritually healthy, stop sinning.

CONCLUSION:

The story is not about how to get out of a stuck place. It's about the grace, power and glory of Jesus.

1) This man was hopeless.

Yet Jesus by His grace found him and said, "Do you want to get well?"

2) This man was powerless.

Yet Jesus through His power said, "Get up."

3) This man was worthless.

Yet Jesus for His glory believed the man could turn his life around.

Jesus wants your story to also be about Him.

It will happen only by His grace, through His power, for His glory.

[Eph 3:20-21 NIV] 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.