

“Getting Well”
John 5:2-9, 14
Jan 2, 2022

John 5:2-6 (ESV)

2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. **3** In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed.**5** One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?”

John’s gospel highlights particular events that point to the identity of Jesus.

John 5:4. (KJV)

4 For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

Things to see in this passage -

- The pool is a picture.
- Jesus’ question reveals.
- More is at stake than the man realizes.

The pool is a picture of the human predicament.

“Do you want to be healed?”

How are we settling for less?

If the question reveals things about the man and about Jesus.

John 5:7 (ESV)

7 The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.”

We ask Jesus to help us get into what won’t cure us.

The man was at the place where real healing is possible and he doesn’t realize it.

John 5:8 (ESV)

8 Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” **9** And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

“Get up” or arise.

John 5:13-14 (ESV)

13 Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you." 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you."

Jesus has no desire to leave the man with meaningless health.

Physical healings should always point us to holiness.

Isaiah 35:3-6

3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- How are you approaching the new year? What are the things you are hoping for you, things you want to be different?
- How is the Pool of Bethesda a picture of broken humanity? What are the things we do or the places we go that don't really make a lasting qualitative difference?
- What does it reveal about Jesus that he would go to the Pool and seek out this particular man?
- How does the paralyzed man's response to Jesus question reveal what the man thinks he needs?
- How does Jesus' caution to the man when he is in the temple address the man's deeper need and Jesus' deeper healing?
- If you were to make New Year's resolutions in relation to your soul, what would they be?
- Pray for one another about the deeper work God wants to do in each person this new year.