Series: VII Passage: John 5:1-17 Sunday: March 12, 2023

John 5:1-17 (ESV)

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

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?" 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." 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. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed." ¹¹ But he answered them, "The man who healed me, that man said to me, 'Take up your bed, and walk.'" ¹² They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.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." ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶ And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

- 1. Do some research on the pool of Bethesda. How did healings in this pool happen? (A study bible or google search may be helpful)
- 2. How long had the man Jesus encountered been lying beside this pool? According to his response to Jesus in verses 7, do you think he was really looking to be healed?

3. How do sins, problems, or sicknesses become so much part of our identity that we have trouble letting them go?



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4. How does Jesus' command to "get up" give us a hint at what a new life with Jesus looks like? From an eternal perspective, what does this hint to for believers in the new creation?

5. What in particular do you look forward to being healed and freed from in the new creation that Jesus brings?

6. What was Jesus response when the Judeans confronted him about breaking the sabbath (verses 16-17)? What does Jesus response mean and why does it make his opponents so angry? (Hint: look ahead at verse 18).

7. What would it look like for us to be the followers of Jesus who are always prepared to say, "Jesus is at work, and so am I"?

