



Session 3 The Healing at the Pool
week starting March 15, 2020

If given the choice between being healed or staying sick, it seems like a no brainer, doesn't it? Wouldn't everyone want to be healed? If we examine our lives and the world, we discover the answer is surprisingly no. It is often more difficult to be healed (and stay healthy) than it is to remain sick. Change is hard!

Jesus asks the question, "Do you want to get well?" The answer isn't as obvious as we might think.

GETTING STARTED

What was the most serious illness or injury you've ever had?

DISCUSSION

- Read John 5:1–4. How do you imagine the setting of the story? What are the sights, sounds, and smells?
- Read John 5:5–7. How do you think the man felt when Jesus asked the question, "Do you want to get well?" How do you imagine the tone of Jesus' voice? What does Jesus mean by His question?
- Why do people choose to stay sick rather than become healthy (physically, emotionally, relationally, financially, or other)? How have you seen this to be true in your own life?
- Read John 5:8–10. The man was looking to be healed in the pool but Jesus came to heal him. Where do people look for healing today? How has Jesus met you where you are?
- Why do the Jews get upset about the man being healed on the Sabbath? How does our self-righteousness get in the way of loving people?
- The signs (miracles) of John are meant to point beyond the miracle and toward Jesus. What do we learn about Jesus from this particular sign?
- Mark 2:1–12 records another healing of a paralytic. How are these two stories similar and how are they different? How does this passage in Mark shed more light on who Jesus is?

LIVE IT OUT!

Jesus loves and brings healing to a man who has always been an outsider in society. Who in your sphere of influence is living outside of God's love? Discuss how you might introduce God's love to him/her this week.

PRAY

Lord, give us eyes to see those who are suffering or are paralyzed in some way. Show us how to love with your heart, and act with your hands and feet. Lead us to demonstrate your love and compassion to such a person this week.