

Part 4: Miracles

Limped in Leaped Out!

John 5:1-9

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

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?”**

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.”

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.

THIS PASSAGE TEACHES US HOW GOD DEALS WITH OUR HOPELESSNESS

SOME PEOPLE NEVER SEE A MIRACLE BECAUSE:

1. WE BELIEVE IN THE MYTH CALLED -- **"AS-SOON-AS"**
2. WE NEVER FAIL TO ANSWER THE QUESTION -- **"DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?"**

When you get well, you lose one set of obvious problems, but sometimes we gain a whole new set that are even more difficult to handle.

Some people are unwilling to pay the prices for wholeness!

John 5:9b-12

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?"**

LIVING FREE - THURSDAYS 6PM

- IDENTIFY IT
- UNDERSTAND IT
- WALK IN HEALING

3. FOR SOME OF US GETTING WELL WOULD BE OUR WORST NIGHTMARE

For some our current situation brings us a set of *benefits we may not want to give up.*

TO ANSWER YES TO THE QUESTION: "DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?"

A. JESUS ASKS AN IMPOSSIBLE THING.

8 Then Jesus said to him, **"Get up!**

B. HE REMOVES THE POSSIBILITY OF RELAPSE

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

TAKE UP YOUR MAT -- YOU ARE NOT COMING BACK!

C. HE EXPECTS CONTINUED SUCCESS

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.