

POOL OF BETHESDA:

Name means house of\_\_\_\_

Superstitious beliefs about healing.

A place of suffering. The\_

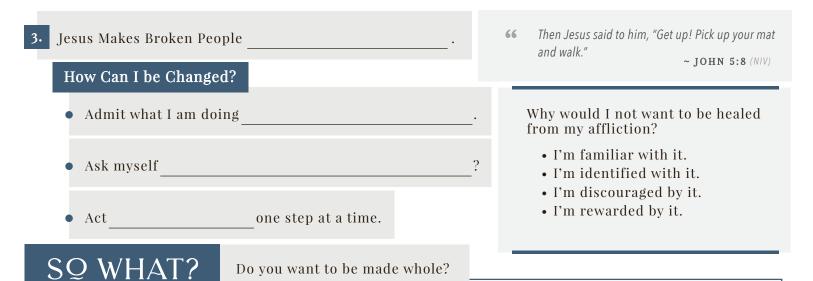
Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.<sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.<sup>3</sup> Here a great number of disabled people used to lie-the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.<sup>5</sup> One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.<sup>6</sup> 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?'

<sup>7</sup> '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.'

\* Then Jesus said to him, 'Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.' • At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath."

1.	This Man was	(but aren't we all)	66	<b>56</b> The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted, uncared for, and deserted by everybody. The greatest evil is the lack of love."	
	• Broken by		<u>.</u>		
	• Broken by	·		- Mother Teresa	
	• Broken by				
Jesus' Question: Do you want to get well? Get Well:					
2.	Jesus Loves		66	t is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick." ~ MATTHEW 9:12b (NIV)	

56 The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



My next step of faith is...



The Lay Counseling Ministry at First Baptist Church of Lodi exists to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of the people in our congregation and in the Greater Lodi Area, and to fulfill our call to *"bear one another's burdens"* and to *"love one another as Christ loves us"*.

## **DISCUSSION Questions:**

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- 1 If you were to give something up for Lent what would it be?
- **2** Read John 5:1-9. What is your first response to this passage? What questions do you have about this miracle?
- **3** Pastor Glen pointed out that Jesus loves broken people. And yet we can all get broken by life's circumstances, other people and time. Which of these three is breaking you down these days? What else?
- **4** What do you see in Jesus' action in this passage that shows his love for broken people? Can you make a list of other times Jesus loved the broken or hurting?

5 - How do you take Jesus' question to the man, "Do you want to be made well?" Why would Jesus ask such a thing?

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- 6 Pastor Glen included a list of some reasons people do not want to be healed from their afflictions. Which of the things on the list have you seen in real life? Are there other reasons you can think of?
- Why do you think people don't change? Can you give examples of people you know, or from your own life, where you have seen dramatic life change?
- 8 How do you respond to Jesus' question, do you want to be made well, at this point in your life?

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