

ALL !N WITH JORDAN EASLEY

Do You Want to Get Well?

Questions Jesus Asked | Part 1 | John 5:6

INTRODUCTION

Some questions have the power to change your life — the ones that make you stop, think, and choose. "Will you marry me?" changes your story. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" shapes your direction. Your life today is largely shaped by how you answered the questions of yesterday. But the most powerful questions ever asked weren't spoken by philosophers or politicians — they were asked by Jesus. And here's the key: when Jesus asks a question, He isn't searching for information; He's inviting transformation. His questions are like a mirror, held up so we can see what's really there — not to condemn us, but to confront us; not to humiliate us, but to heal us.

In John 5, beside the Pool of Bethesda, that's exactly what happens. Jesus looks into the eyes of a man who has been broken for thirty-eight years and asks one of the most piercing questions in all of Scripture: "Do you want to get well?" That question wasn't just for him — it's for anyone who has ever felt stuck, weary, or wounded. Because when Jesus asks it, He isn't only talking about your body. He's talking about your soul.

KEY POINTS

1. Jesus Walks Into Our Brokenness

Bethesda means "House of Mercy," and around those waters lay a crowd desperate for it — the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. The word for "disabled" is the Greek *astheneō*, "to be without strength" — a picture of total helplessness. That's what sin does to us: it doesn't just wound us, it weakens us; apart from Christ, humanity is powerless to heal itself. Bethesda was a place of waiting, hoping, and disappointment — and waiting beside the wrong pool will always leave you empty. Some wait by the pool of success, others by

relationships, others by religion, hoping something there will make them whole. But no pool on earth can cleanse the soul.

And yet Jesus walked right into that place. He always does — into the places we've given up on, our disappointments, our waiting, our hopelessness. All through the Gospels He was "moved with compassion": for the leper no one would touch, the blind man by the road, the grieving mother beside her son's casket, the crowds scattered like sheep without a shepherd. When Jesus sees you, He feels the same — He's not angry or disappointed; He's moved with compassion, and He walks into your Bethesda. This matters because the way you see Jesus determines how you respond to Him: see Him as harsh and you'll hide; see Him as compassionate and you'll come.

2. Jesus Asks the Question That Confronts the Heart

"When Jesus saw him lying there and realized he had already been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to get well?'" (John 5:6). The phrase "get well" means to be made whole, sound, restored. So Jesus isn't asking, "Do you want to be helped?" — He's asking, "Do you want to be changed?" Because sometimes we learn to live broken. After thirty-eight years, this man's paralysis had become part of his identity. It's easy to say yes in theory, but getting well means getting up, and getting up means letting go of what's been comfortable — even if it's been killing you.

How many of us are still lying on our own mats — of sin, shame, addiction, anger, bitterness — saying we want freedom while clinging to the very thing holding us down? Many of us want relief from pain but not repentance from sin; we want Jesus to fix what hurts but not to change who we've become. Notice, the man's first response wasn't "yes" — it was an excuse: "I have no one to put me into the pool... someone always goes down ahead of me" (John 5:7). As long as we make excuses, we stay where we are. But Jesus doesn't heal excuses — He heals obedience: "Get up," He said, "pick up your mat and walk" (John 5:8), and instantly the man was made well. When Jesus speaks, change doesn't require time — it requires trust.

3. From Religion to Restoration — and After Your Heart

The man's very first steps of freedom walked him straight into criticism: it was the Sabbath, and the religious crowd rebuked him for carrying his mat. While heaven rejoiced, religion judged. But Jesus didn't come to start a religion — He

came to set us free from one. Religion says, "Clean yourself up"; Jesus says, "Come to me, and I'll make you white as snow." Religion is our attempt to reach God; restoration is God's plan to reach us. The people who knew the Bible best missed Jesus the most — so fixated on what the man was carrying that they missed the fact that he was finally walking.

But Jesus wasn't satisfied with a man who could merely walk; He wanted a man who could worship. Later "Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, 'See, you are well. Do not sin anymore, so that something worse doesn't happen to you'" (John 5:14) — the very place this man had been barred from for thirty-eight years. The Greek for "found" means He sought him out; that's grace — Jesus keeps pursuing you until He captures your heart. And "do not sin anymore" isn't a demand for perfection but a call to live free: you've been set free, so don't go back to what broke you. Physical healing is powerful, but spiritual healing is eternal. Right now, this room can become your Bethesda, because the same Jesus who stood by that pool stands here — He knows your past, feels your pain, and has the power to make you whole. You just can't step into healing until you're willing to respond to the Healer. So how will you answer His question? If your answer is yes — get up, take up your mat, and start walking with Jesus.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Jesus asks, "Do you want to get well?" — not "helped," but "changed." What "mat" have you learned to live on for so long, and are you actually willing to get up off it?
2. The man answered Jesus with an excuse instead of a yes. What excuse ("if only...", "someone always...") have you been using to stay stuck, and what would simple obedience look like instead?
3. Jesus sought the healed man out and found him worshiping in the temple. Where is Jesus pursuing you right now, and what would it look like to run to Him rather than back to your old mat?
