

1 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, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. **3** In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. **4** For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. **5** Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" **7** The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." **8** Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." **9** And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. **10** The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." **11** He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.' " **12** Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and

walk'?" **13** But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. John 5:1-13

Have you ever been stuck?

•For six days, 127hrs., Aron Ralston kept himself alive with fierce self-control and a conviction that only logical thought could let him survive. But the epiphany when the 27-year-old climber realized how he could save his own life came from an explosion of blind rage. Ralston had been climbing the narrow canyons of Utah alone when a dislodged boulder fell on to his right arm, trapping him against a rock. He was entombed in the wilderness with minimal supplies. He had no mobile phone – and there was no reception anyway. Most foolishly of all, he had not told anyone where he was going. He eked out his water, futilely chipping away at the 800lb rock and slowly entering a state of delirium, until he was eventually forced to cut off his trapped arm, with the small knife from his cheap multitool kit.

It's not fun being stuck

•Life moving by you...

How frustrating it must have been to be stuck so close to a miracle.

•38 years STUCK

•How did he get stuck?-

- Possibly born this way
- Possibly became this way

• Maybe like that boulder there was an unexpected SHIFT!

•How did you get stuck? When did you get stuck?

•Stuck in addictions, sin, relationship, attitude, moment.

• Staring at something that is out of reach.

An angel would trouble the water...

•Why wasn't he sleeping in the water?

•Always too late. Always falling short.

•This man does not have a hope issue.

• He is helpless but not hopeless.

• His issue is *helplessness*.

•He's still there

•And some of you are still here.

• He could have given up. lost hope.

•Stuck in insignificance. Stuck in obscurity.

•Not moving- Water that doesn't move attracts disease.

•A man with a problem stuck in the middle of a crowd of problems.

•But the difference is- **they're moving on.. touching the water.** Being healed.

•*Getting remarried. finding a new job. Getting in shape. Meeting new friends. starting a family.*

•And here you are... marriage falling apart, losing your job, only thing new in your life is the latest prescription the doctor gave you and he's about the only person you dress up to see on a regular basis.

•Have You Ever Been Stuck?

•The Bible says Jesus is searching...

There's a big difference between problem spotting and problem solving.

•Anyone, even the fairly imperceptive, can identify problems, but few people ave the initiative to tackle them.

•It's good to know that Jesus is not afraid to get into the messed up areas of your life to pull you out of the mud you're stuck in.

•He's not just here to spot a problem. He's here to solve it. Whatever it takes!

•And "Jesus saw him."

• **He sees you!**

•Others may have walked past you but He sees you!

Do you want to be made well?

•head under the hood- *Something wrong with your car?*

•*Does this dress make my...*

•**This should be obvious.**

• **But when God asks and obvious question it's not because He needs to know something.**

• **It's because WE do.**

•We think and say we want to be healed, in our heart of hearts we really do not.

✓ We have become **Institutionalized.**

•**Institutionalization-Incarcerated mentality**

•*Can God take care of me outside a system of predictability?*

•Prison gangs...

• **Your association defines your condition.**

•**Pastoring- all business owners high level thinkers... gossips, bitter, quitters...**

•Check your social media- That's your porch.

•**I'm not challenged when nobody is better than me.**

•**They would rather be accepted than change.**

•COVID didn't isolate you to that group...

•You never leave the place where you're comfortable.

•**Do you?**

•**But they... Do you!**

• Dis-function always blames someone else.

•**With one question Jesus has laid the full responsibility of the miracle on the man.**

•**He's staring at a tradition that has power, just not for him.**

~ **Here's the BIG IDEA...**

•**God is laying the responsibility of your miracle on you!**

•**Not on other people!**

• **He's giving a reason. God's giving a remedy.**

•Are you hungry? Well, you know i haven't eaten all day, got busy at work, didn't like what was on the menu...

•**ARE YOU HUNGRY?!!!**

•**Some of you have been giving God reasons. Today God is offering you a REMEDY!**

✓ **The Condition YOU EXCUSE is the Condition YOU EMPOWER.**

•**It's not You vs. Them**

•**It's You vs. You!**

•While you were finishing your 15th Netflix series they were training, investing, preparing... They'll move while you stay stuck.

•Somebody is going to come out of this better.

☑️ 5 Pools. He was sitting in Grace and didn't know it.

•Extreme desperation brings undeniable revelation!

• There's a miracle in this moment.

•I Dare you to JUMP! JUMP into this moment. Drop the Mic

•12 Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?"

☑️ Who's the Man?!

•I love it when God does something so quick and so amazing you're like... What? Who? How?

•It's a drop the mic miracle.

•Peter- Who do men, Pilate- behold the man, Thomas-
I Am the MAN!!!

•I Am the Man who can heal you, deliver, restore, transform, strengthen, and set you free!

1) Are you stuck?

2) Do you want to be made whole?

•15 Sec. For 15 Days...