



This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
- How are you living up with God?
- How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
- How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Devalued: Fractured

Read John 5:1-15

- There is a phrase used to describe Christians that we can be so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good. How have you seen this sentiment play out in Christian circles, and what are the potential pitfalls of focusing solely on future hope without addressing present suffering?
- Pastor Josh emphasized in the message that God cares about our "whole life" – our bodies, hearts, emotional life, suffering, and joy – not just our beliefs. How does Jesus' interaction with the invalid at the Pool of Bethesda (John 5:6-9) demonstrate this holistic care?
Jesus asks the invalid, "Do you want to get well?" (John 5:6). Why do you think Jesus asks this question, especially after 38 years of suffering? What does this question reveal about agency and dignity in the healing process, and what area of your own life might Jesus be asking this question about today?
- Reflect on a time when you or someone you know felt ignored or devalued in their struggles. How can we, as a community, be more intentional about seeing and acknowledging the fractures in each other's lives?
- When the healed man is confronted by the Jewish leaders for carrying his mat on the Sabbath (John 5:10), what does this reveal about their priorities? How does this contrast with Jesus' focus on healing and wholeness?
- Pastor Josh highlighted in the message that "Some people benefit from your fractures over your healing, so let Jesus make you free." In what ways might societal or even religious systems inadvertently benefit from people remaining "fractured"? How can we actively seek freedom and wholeness, even when it challenges established norms?
- Instead of focusing on how we can "help" others, how can shifting our perspective to recognize their inherent gifts foster dignity and stronger relationships? Can you describe a neighbor who you recognize has a gift that they can use for the flourishing of our community?

This week, what is one way you can live into your healing from Jesus? This week, what is one way that you can celebrate someone else's healing from Jesus this week? This week, what is one way that you can invite someone to bring their whole self to Jesus?

