

A Troubling Hope for a Troubled World

1. Jesus Works in Ways That Don’t Make Sense

Scripture: John 9:1–7; Isaiah 50:6

Key Idea: Jesus uses unexpected, uncomfortable methods to bring healing.

- Spitting was offensive in Jesus’ culture.
- Jesus turns an insult symbol into a healing symbol.
- God often works outside our expectations.

Question: Why does God sometimes use uncomfortable methods to work in us?

2. Jesus Meets Us in the Dirt

Scripture: Genesis 2:7; Psalm 103:14; John 1:14 **Key Idea:** Jesus steps into the dirt of our lives without hesitation.

- Mudhealing echoes God forming humanity from dust.
- Jesus meets people where they are, not where they pretend to be.
- Ministry requires entering messy places.

Question: What “dirt” do people carry today that the church must be willing to step into?

3. Jesus Invites Participation in Our Healing

Scripture: John 9:7; James 2:17; Philippians 2:12–13 **Key Idea:** Healing requires movement, obedience, and trust.

- Jesus tells the man to “Go, wash.”
- Faith is active, not passive.
- Obedience opens the door to transformation.

Question: What step of obedience might God be asking you — or our church — to take right now?

4. Jesus Turns Trouble Into Testimony

Scripture: John 9:8–34; John 13:14; Ecclesiastes 3:20 **Key Idea:** When Jesus heals, it disrupts the comfortable and reveals God’s power.

- The healing caused confusion and debate.
- Jesus models humility by washing feet.
- God works through the low places to display His glory.

Question: When has Jesus disrupted your comfort in order to grow you or use you?

5. Takeaways for Franklinton Baptist Church

A. Expect God to Work in Unexpected Ways

Scripture: Isaiah 55:8–9

Question: What unexpected thing might God be preparing to do in our church?

B. Don't Be Afraid of People's Mess

Scripture: Galatians 6:2

Question: How can our church better welcome people who feel messy or broken?

C. Healing Requires Participation

Psalm 37:23

Question: What practical steps can we help people take toward healing?

D. Hope Will Disrupt Our Comfort

Mark 8:34

Question: Where might Jesus be calling us to embrace discomfort for His mission?