



## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for the many lessons we can learn from the Word of Truth. I pray that as I journey through life, I will not miss any precious encounters with Christ along the way. Help me to do all things to your praise and glory, and in everything give thanks. This I ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

*- Knowing Jesus*

## WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Imagine you were bedridden all your life, but you suddenly received physical healing. What's the first thing you would do?

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## WORD

<sup>1</sup> After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. <sup>3</sup> In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. <sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” <sup>7</sup> The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going, another steps down before me.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” <sup>9</sup> And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. <sup>10</sup> So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” <sup>11</sup> But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” <sup>12</sup> They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’” <sup>13</sup> Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. <sup>14</sup> Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” <sup>15</sup> The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

[JOHN 5:1-15](#)

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1-10 (1 = never/not at all; 10 = always/extremely), how would you rate yourself in terms of being patient with people? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. In verse 5 of the passage above, there was a man who was an invalid for 38 years. Discuss what the mindset of this man would have been. How might his condition affect him emotionally, mentally, and physically?
3. Jesus' question to the man was, “Do you want to be healed?” But the man doesn't answer the question; instead, he responds by blaming what happens in the process of helplessness. Why do you think the man answered this way? Have there been times when you have given helpless responses to God when he asks things of you? Why or why not?
4. From this story, what are some key lessons you can share with someone who needs to hear this word of encouragement, that Jesus is the healer and he wants to heal us? Share one or two lessons with your group.

If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, would you choose today to trust him? Will you enable him to have all authority as the one who calls the shots in your life? Would you like to enter into a saving relationship with God through Jesus? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer:

*Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to be the master of my life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. I declare that I am yours, and you are mine. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## NOTES