



JESUS AT WORK

To start your time together, share the evidences of God’s grace you have experienced this past year. Share how you have seen Fruit of the Spirit growth in yourself and in each other.

Share and discuss how have you been challenged to live missionally this past year. Invite 1-2 individuals in your group to share what their life looked like before Jesus and how choosing to be a follower of Jesus changed their life.

OPENING COMMENT

We get the privilege of diving back into the Gospel of John, where we will be confronted with the absolutely beautiful and glorious work that Jesus is doing in the world. And yet, one of the things we need to think about is how we can miss the work that God is doing among each of us, everyday.

What was the truth or lesson that impressed you most from Sunday’s sermon?

READ THE TEXT: John 5:1-15

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years ...

I: JESUS WORK IS TO BRING HEALING FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOLINESS



1. There is something wonderful about Jesus! There is something supernatural about the healing and transforming work that takes place in the life and hearts of those that follow Him. From the Stories of Faith you heard on Sunday, how did you see God's healing power work in the lives of those baptized?
2. In our text we see Jesus display himself as the unique Son of God - he is what makes the difference, not the water in the pool. So whether you experience a physical miracle in your life: like the man by the pool, or a spiritual miracle: a redeemed heart, the miracle is meant to lead us into holiness. Discuss how Jesus responded to the man by the pool. How did the man respond to Jesus? How did they respond to each other, before this miracle and then after this miracle?
3. Why do you believe Jesus asked the man "Do you want to be healed?" Can a person find freedom in Christ if they are not ready?
4. Jesus did not want this man to waste this miracle by letting him walk away and continue to live a life of sin. Jesus was concerned about the physical, but he was especially concerned about the man's eternal suffering. What does "healing for the purpose of holiness" look like? Do you put the two together when you pray for healing for yourself or someone else?

II: JESUS WORK CAN BE WASTED THROUGH LIBERTINISM

1. How often have you heard someone declare "Freedom in Christ" and then observed them living a life contrary to what scripture is teaching? Discuss whether or how you have responded.
2. In our text Jesus has done a healing work in the man's life. Libertinism means the man believes he doesn't have to obey commands or resist sin, he's been freed and now he can live as he chooses. Take time to read Romans 6:1-3, share what you discovers from Paul's instruction.
3. Christ has come to do a healing, restoring work in our lives for the purpose of our growth in holiness. What would it look like if we actively embraced our ability to walk in newness of life not in slavery to sin? How would all our lives be different?

III: JESUS WORK CAN BE MISSED THROUGH LEGALISM

1. Notice how badly the Jews at the Pool of Bethesda miss what Jesus has done ... "Why are you working on the Sabbath?" is their question. How often do you find yourself getting caught up in "legalism" or preferences and miss what God is doing



around you? What do you do, or can you do, to remain more focused on the miracle and God's larger purpose?

2. Why is mutual accountability in the church or in a Lifegroup a great safeguard when our focus on Christ starts to get blurry?

SHARE & PRAY

- Pray in response for those you may know in need of physical or spiritual healing, or both.
- Pray for the will and strength to walk in newness of life this week.
- Take some time to thank God that He has come to heal us and restore us from our sinful nature.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, for the growth in grace you want to experience, and the needs among you.

