



# From Paralysis to Belief

**John 5:1-17**

## **John 5:2-4 (English Standard Version)**

<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.

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ ...“a great multitude of the sick”; describes us and the Church
- ◆ Be encouraged! You're in a room full of people who don't have it all together
- ◆ Some say this is the church's weakness
- ◆ It's our strength as it allows us to come to Christ in sincerity and humility
- ◆ Verse 4 is probably not in the earliest manuscripts but tells of the legends that brought people there
- ◆ Day after day, a hopeless hope

## **John 5:5-7 (English Standard Version)**

<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."

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ 38 years of pain, disappointment, false hope - Why?
- ◆ We often repeat patterns without checking if they are valid or if they lead to faith and health
- ◆ Jesus saw him - and He still sees!
- ◆ He is not oblivious to our pain
- ◆ He went to this gate on purpose
- ◆ He went to find this man
- ◆ Christ is drawn to need and broken sinners

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ At first glance, Jesus' question is almost silly...
- ◆ But sickness and begging and reliance on others is all the man has known for 38 years
- ◆ We'd rather stay where we are and complain
- ◆ We prefer anger, want sympathy or attention, playing the martyr
- ◆ Are you holding on to anger, bitterness, regret, guilt, a destructive habit?
- ◆ Change is often scarier than our problems

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ The man is alone, struggling and hopeless
- ◆ Sounds like us in our pain

## **John 5:8-9 (English Standard Version)**

<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.



# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ Is there healing today? Absolutely!
- ◆ Some are healed; Christ left multitudes sick
- ◆ To the sick: Believe - not that God will or must heal. Believe in a great God that can heal and save your soul and bring purpose to life beyond physical health.
- ◆ Jesus acted mercifully to this man's suffering
- ◆ Jesus saw and spoke and did - do you?
- ◆ "Immediately"- Christ is powerful

## John 5:9-10 (English Standard Version)

<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."

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ Jewish law prohibited A LOT
- ◆ Legalism forces us to live in fear; not celebration
- ◆ Christianity is all about a relationship with a personal, powerful Jesus not extra rules
- ◆ These men were paralyzed by their religion/self-righteousness

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ The healing wasn't just for this man
- ◆ It was to confront empty religion and expose sin and heart paralysis in others, too
- ◆ That's true for you and your pain and blessings too!

## **John 5:11-16 (English Standard Version)**

<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. <sup>16</sup>And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because He was doing these things on the Sabbath.

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ♦ V 14- if you ignore this, if you idolize this, if you embrace sin, if you ignore the Gospel - worse will happen
- ♦ Sickness/death and hell

## **John 5:17 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>17</sup>But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ Jesus seems to be picking a fight, doesn't He?
- ◆ He's confronting them at their weakest point; confronts their sin
- ◆ Bring us to Himself through our desperation and exposed sin
- ◆ Where would Christ confront you?



# From Paralysis To Belief

## John 5:1-17

- ◆ Will you love humanity the way Christ did?
- ◆ Are you accepting God's grace gifts yet embracing sin, ignoring His deeper works for salvation and holiness?
- ◆ Do you want to get well?
- ◆ What sin would Christ confront in you?

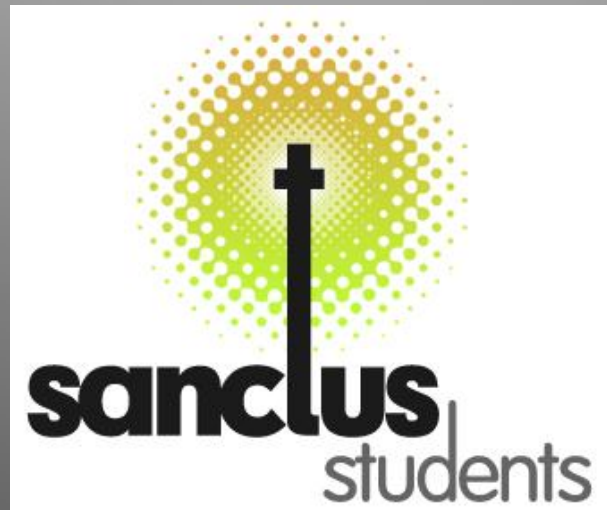
# *Helping Hands*



## **Rose-Rich Food Drive to Benefit Helping Hands**

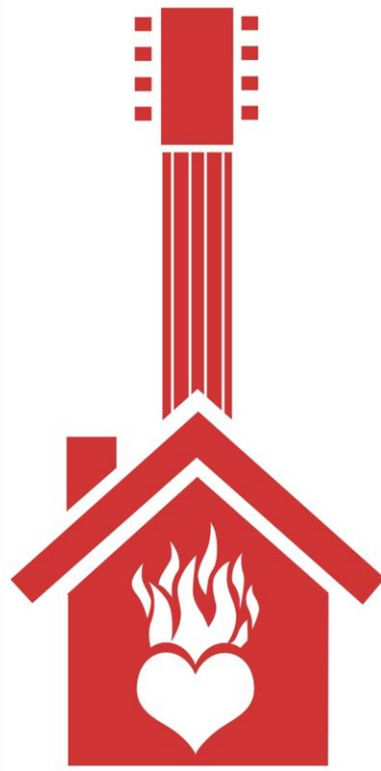
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