

A COMPASSIONATE ENCOUNTER

Jesus and the Man at the Pool of Bethesda

John 5:1-15

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INTRO

1. Reviewing the encounters
2. Reading the last encounter

A. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE MAN'S SICKNESS

1. The man was disabled spiritually (v. 2)
2. The man was disabled physically (v. 3)
3. The man was disabled socially (v. 3)
4. The man was disabled emotionally (v. 4-6)
5. The man was disabled of his capability (v. 7)

B. THE DELIVERANCE OF THE MAN'S SICKNESS

1. The deliverance was established on the personality of Christ (v. 3-5)
2. The deliverance was based sovereignty (v. 6)
3. The deliverance required responsibility (v. 8-9)
4. The deliverance required consistency (v. 14)
5. The deliverance resulted in a testimony (v. 15)

CONCLUSION

TABLE TALK QUESTIONS

1. Icebreaker. What was the worse illness you went through? What were the different dimensions of your pain, discomfort and suffering?
2. Read John 5:1-7. Bethesda is an interesting place, it was located in Jerusalem, “the religious capital of Israel.” The word “Bethesda” means “a place of mercy.” How come there were so many sick people were seen here? What does this passage tell us about the proximity of God’s presence and the obstacles to God’s miracles?
3. Although infirmities are usually defined as physical in form, how does this passage reveal the different dimensions of sickness? Be specific and share practical details on about your observation. (You can use the sermon outline during the last Sunday’s sermon on “A Compassionate Encounter”).
4. Read John 5:8-15. What did Jesus ask the man? Was this a silly question? What was Jesus’ purpose in asking this specific question? How did the man answer Jesus’ question? Do you think the man really wanted to be healed?
5. Why did Jesus heal only this man? What about the other crowd of sick people? What can we infer from this important passage?
6. What three commands does Jesus give this man as He heals him? Did the invalid man have a choice in the healing? How does this passage reveal the importance of our responsibilities when we ask God to answer our prayers?
7. Read carefully the phrase “afterwards” in verses 1 and 14. Both verses articulate the before and after condition of healing. What was Jesus expecting of this man regarding his life as healed person? How does this verse reveal about how we should live for God?
8. Close the Life Group meeting by praying for one another for healing, provision, miracles and salvation.