

# THE POWER OF COMPASSION

John 5:1-15  
Pastor Alan Dionson  
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## INTRO

Reviewing our five core values

### A. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE MAN'S SICKNESS

*The man's condition...*

1. Blinded him **spiritually** (v. 2)
2. Limited him **physically** (v. 3)
3. Affected him **emotionally** (v. 4-6)
4. Isolated him **socially** (v. 7a)
5. Weakened him **mentally** (v. 7b)

### B. THE DELIVERANCE OF THE MAN'S SICKNESS

1. The restoration was based on Christ's **personality** (v. 6a)
2. The restoration was based on Christ's **sovereignty** (v. 6b)
3. The restoration required **responsibility** (v. 8-9)
4. The restoration needed **consistency** (v. 14)
5. The restoration resulted in **testimony** (v. 15)

## CONCLUSION

The ministry of Jesus is based on the **word** and **action** (Luke 4:18-19; 7:20-23).

## LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. **Icebreaker.** What was the worst 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 one of the gates of Jerusalem, which is “the religious capital of Israel.” The word “Bethesda” means “a place of mercy.” But how come so many sick and desperately needy people were close to the “religious capital of Israel?” What does this picture tell us about how near and far we can receive a miracle? (See map in our online outline)
3. Although infirmities are usually physical in form, how does this passage reveal the different dimensions of sickness? You can use last Sunday’s sermon outline entitled “The Power of Compassion” accessible from our website.
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 the phrase “afterwards” (KJV) or sometime later/after: (NIV) in verses 1 and 14 carefully.** Both verses articulate the “before and after” condition of a restored person. What was Jesus expecting of this man after his restoration? 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.