



Small Group Discussion Questions

"Jesus-Healer"

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Opening Remarks

Getting to know Jesus means getting to know One who heals and gives life.

Many of us have spent years adjusting to diseases Jesus wants to heal, supremely the disease called "sin". I pray you welcome the healing Jesus offers you. In this third miracle John records, we will engage a man who was "half-healed". Certainly healed physically, his spiritual healing is uncertain. Many today remain physically disabled, yet know a deeper healing they would not trade. Blessed are those who mysteriously are granted a season of both.

Warm it up

1] When you get sick, what are you like? The grouch? Superman? Other?

Talk it over

2] Read John 5:1-15. Why do you think Jesus asked the invalid if he wanted to get well [v. 6]? Why might a sick person not want to become whole? What are some of the advantages of having a physical illness or a spiritual or emotional wound?

- 3] The invalid doesn't answer Jesus' question. What does his reply [v. 7] tell you about him and his focus? How would you have felt if you were the invalid and were asked whether you wanted to get well? What reasons might the invalid have had for remaining by the pool for all those years?

- 4] Does this man's healing depend on his choice or his faith [vv. 6-8]? How can you tell and why is this important?

- 5] What might be the "something worse" [v. 14] that will happen to the healed man if he doesn't stop sinning?

- 6] The Jewish leaders utterly ignore the fact that a man has been miraculously healed [vv. 10-12, 16]. Why? What does this imply about them? Why do you suppose the gospel writer includes this element to the episode?

- 7] In the gospels, Jesus doesn't normally say this [v. 14] to people He heals. Why do you suppose He warns this man?

Work it through

- 8] Can you think of any areas of your own life where you are like this invalid?
- 9] What is the closest Jesus has come to saying to you, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk”?
- 10] What connection between your physical and spiritual health have you noticed? When have you found yourself getting physically sick over problems in other areas of your life?
- 11] Ask yourself Jesus’ question in v. 6. Then ask yourself, and God, what you should do about your answer.

Weekly Devotional

What was one daily devotional that helped you discover some new things about Jesus, about yourself, and inspired you to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ?

Pray it through

Pray the Lord’s Prayer together! [It will “pop” in the light of this study!]