

Living A Kingdom Lifestyle

Are you still hurt? It's your choice.

John 5:1-6

After 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, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. ³In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. ⁵Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

Jesus said: Do you want to be made **well**?

John 5:7-9

⁷The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." ⁹And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.

Because of being the Sabbath – a problem with the **Jews**

John 5:10

¹⁰The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed."

John 5:11-13

¹¹ He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.' " ¹² Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" ¹³ But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in *that* place.

John 5:14-16

¹⁴ Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." ¹⁵ The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. ¹⁶ For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.

My Lord – this entire story reminds me of the Church around the world: I will tell you some reasons.

A. It was a pool called **Bethesda**

- Bethesda means "House of **mercy**"

* No better name for a church – we are to be **merciful** people.

1. A believer received mercy in their lives so they should be anxious to **extend** mercy to anyone they have contact with.

Second reason:

B. The pool was near the **Sheep** Gate.

- We are called the **sheep** of His pasture and we enter in the church.

C. The pool had **five** porches.

Now, I'm being a little illustrative and I'm saying it could represent this – the five **offices** of the Church:

- **Apostle**
- **Prophet**
- **Evangelist**
- **Pastor**
- **Teacher**

There are a mixture of the man's actions and statements that are **kingdom** and that are **not kingdom**.

Here are some thoughts or actions that were **not** kingdom!

- They were waiting on the **moving** of the waters.

We are in the midst of a mighty move of God. Much of the Church is still **waiting** on God to move.

2. I don't want to wait for the move of God, I want to **start** it – this is how:

- I want to start it in **prayer**.
- I want to start it in **worship**.
- I want to start it in **evangelism**.
- I want to start it in **healing**.
- I want to start it leading people to Jesus and **delivered**.

James 1:4

⁴But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- Patience is not a passive grace (**waiting**)
- Patience is an active word (active **energy**)
- Patience is whatever is manifesting, you are **active** in faith and action that changes things.

In other words, this active patience is an unwavering faith counting every step you take – your path is clearly marked in spite of situations. It's a clear form of **submission** to God's Word!

Wrong actions:

- The church is waiting on the big shots to do something (in this story, an **angel**)
- 3. The will of God is done by **every** believer being equipped for the work of their ministry and accomplishing their call.

Here is another reason it took 38 years and reminds me of the Church:

- The Bible said, Jesus knew He had been in the condition a long time and He asked him, do you want to be healed?
- There is a great multitude of sick people in the Church and we all have an **anointing** to lay hands on the sick to be made well.
- When Jesus did something causing a **change**, the religious people got mad.

Question: What prompted Jesus to ask: Do you want to be healed?

Verse 5 tells us the answer: “knowing that he had been in the same condition a long time” → Jesus knew how many times the angel stirred the water in the 38 years.

Pastors teaching sermons trying to prove God doesn't heal today

- If you walked in fear a long time
- If you had insecurity for a long time
- If you're in bondage to sin or bitter a long time, or sickness.

Jesus is asking: will you make a change in your life to open **yourself** up to His healing power?

I believe if you seek the Healer, you will **find** Him.

Are you still hurt? It's **your** choice

Let's find three things that will make a change to healing in all things:

A. The **reason** to be healed

- There is not one person in this world that hasn't been hurt **emotionally** or faced **sickness** in their life.

4. Hurt always opens the door for **sin**.

John 5:14b

¹⁴... “See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”

Hurt opens the door to:

- **Unforgiveness**
- **Bitterness**
- **Hate**
- **Malice**
- **Envy**
- **Fear**
- **Pride**

B. The very reason to be healed so we can be set free from an open door to **sin**.

Galatians 5:16

¹⁶I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

The root of most sin is **hurt** – be **delivered**.

God says to the global church today:

- Do you want to be healed?
 - The Church responds are you sure we're sick? Not knowing:
 - Not having scripture jump off the page is: **blindness**
 - Fulfilling the lust of the flesh is: **lameness**
 - So full of fear and doubt: is being **paralyzed** in the Spirit
5. Defensiveness, overreacting, manipulation are all signs of past **hurts** that have never been healed. Stop **blaming** others.

Jesus asked, Do you want to be healed?

Answer: Didn't say yes, but gave a **defensive** hurt response – others took my healing. I don't know why they are healed and I'm not!

The third thing to do:

C. **Walk**

- In other words – do something, take **action**.
 - * If you want change, let **God** change you.

D. The result of being healed is **freedom**.

He didn't have to stay at the pool anymore.

He didn't even **know** Jesus and a little bit later, Jesus revealed Himself.

After the healing, He got the next step of his life → go and sin **no more**.

6. Your next step from God comes either by being in the **secret** place or being healed of that which caused spiritual **deafness**.

Patience is strong **obedience** → so family:
choose **healing**, not **hurt**.