

THE BOOK OF JOHN

How God Helps Us When We're Helpless

A Review Of The Truths In John Chapters 1-4

- John 1:1-18 - Jesus is God, Jesus is Life, Jesus became Flesh
- John 1:19-34 - John the Baptist: the secret to living a great life.
Know who you are, Know who you are not, Know who Jesus is.
- John 1:35-51 - Calling the Disciples:
How Jesus call is molded to fit different personalities
- John 2:1-11 - Turning water into wine.
Want to see miracles? Start Serving!
- John 2:12-25 - How Jesus cleans temples.
- John 3:1-15 - Nicodemus:
How to make a spiritual success out of your life.
- John 3:16 - The greatest verse
- John 4:1-42 - The Woman at the Well:
How Jesus call is molded to fit our personalities
- John 4:43-54 - Healing the Nobleman's Son:
The overriding priority of deepening our faith.

In John 5 we "turn a corner" in the gospel. John begins to trace a growing rejection and hostility towards Jesus that centers around 3 separate acts of healing.

John 5: The man at the pool of Bethesda

John 9: The man born blind

John 11: Lazarus

2 Things we see in this miracle:

How Jesus works

Who Jesus is

John 5:1-2, "After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches."

Want to better understand God's word?

Learn to picture both Israel and Jerusalem in you mind.

Learn the Jewish calendar

John 5:3-5, "In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years."

John 5:6, "When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?"

3 Things Opened Up The Possibility Of Change In This Man's Life.

1. Jesus saw him.
2. Jesus knew his condition.
3. Jesus asked him a question.

Not just any question, one of life's greatest and deepest questions:

Do you want to get well?

Why do you think Jesus went to only one man in this huge crowd?

John 5:7, "The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me."

This miracle shows us how God deals with human helplessness.

We can all relate... we all find ourselves paralyzed at times.

1 Barrier Stood In The Way Of Change In This Man's Life:

His Preconceived Solution

We often become so focused on one solution that we cannot see God's solution.

And so we become accustomed to life around a pool of misery.

John 5:8-9, "Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath."

Sometimes it's important to notice what Jesus DOESN'T do!

Jesus did not offer to help him into the pool.

Jesus did not encourage him that someday he would certainly be first.

Jesus did not make him more comfortable where he was.

Jesus did not argue with the man about his theological shortcomings.

3 Things Activated The Reality Of Change In His Life:

This is how God works to change us where we are helpless to change

1. "Get up!"—Jesus challenges us to do the very thing that we cannot do.
2. "Take up your mat!"—Jesus removes the temptation to relapse.
3. "Walk!"—Jesus expects continued success.

He walked away from Bethesda!

He walked away from 38 years of misery, shame and despair.