

# Life Group Discussion Guide

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
HEALTH & ILLNESSES  
JOHN 5:1-15  
Stuart Jones - February 12, 2017



## INTRODUCTION

Pain in this life is inevitable. Whether it be physical pain or emotional pain, we can count on incurring some kind of pain during our lifetime.

The problem is not the pain we suffer but where we turn to for relief from that pain. To whom do we turn for healing? To whom do we turn for a reprieve from that which hurts us so deeply, so acutely?

In John 5 we find the story of a man unable to walk into a pool for healing. Instead, Jesus told him to pick up his mat and walk. Will we turn to Jesus to ease our pain as this man turned to Him for healing?

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. What was the go to home remedy in your home when you were a child? How about now?
2. What bump, break, cut or scrape do you remember from your childhood? How did it happen?

## EVALUATE IT

1. Read John 5:1-15. How do you think the man, who had been disabled for 38 years, felt about his circumstance?
2. What do you think went through his mind when Jesus asked, "Do you want to get well?"
3. What role does trust play when we ask God for help? Is trust easy or difficult for you? Explain.
4. Stuart said, "What transpires when we have to trust in God is that God reveals his insight and God reveals his power, but also God reveals his will for us." How did God reveal his will for the man in the story (verse 14)? Does the uncertainty of God's answer ever make you hesitant to pray?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. When the pain of this world comes down on you is God your first option, last option or more of a "rabbit's foot"? Explain.
2. How can the group pray for you today?

## ILLUSTRATION

Your adversary would love for you to assume the worst about your situation. He would enjoy seeing you heave a sigh and resign yourself to feelings of depression. However, it's been my experience that when God is involved, anything can happen. The One who directed that stone in between Goliath's eyes and split the Red Sea down the middle and leveled that wall around Jericho and brought His Son back from beyond takes delight in mixing up the odds as He alters the inevitable and bypasses the impossible. The blind songwriter, Fanny Crosby, put it another way: "Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

-Charles R. Swindoll, Encourage Me



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?  
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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