# Gospel of John Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## John Chapter 5

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:* vv.1-2 Jesus goes to Jerusalem for one of the three required annual Jewish feasts for males
* v. 3 Disabled would come together in the colonnade area near a pool of water
* v. 4 This verse is not in the earliest manuscripts and thus is not included in modern Bibles
* vv. 5-6 Jesus meets a man who had been an invalid for 38 years and asks him if he wants to get well
* v. 7 The invalid doesn’t answer Jesus’ question but instead gives Jesus his own solution to his problem
* vv. 8-9 Jesus heals the man, the man takes up his mat and walks. The man has no idea who Jesus is
* vv. 10-13 The Jews were upset that Jesus told a man to “work” on the Sabbath (picked up his mat )
* vv.14-15 Jesus returns and warns the man about sin
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| Possible main point(s):* Lies we believe... we think we know what we really want
* Jesus wants to work in your life even before you know who he is!
* Jesus leads with grace/healing/help, then follows with truth about himself and our life (sin)
* Jesus offers a chance to “get up” to have a new life, to resurrect!
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| What this shows us about Jesus:* Jesus cares about our troubles, finds out the details
* Jesus does not force change in our lives
* Jesus can heal people, even if they do not know who did it (Jesus)
* Jesus returns to warn the man about something worse than being an invalid for 38 years, sin
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| What this has to do with our life:* It may take 38 years before an encounter with Jesus changes your life, but why wait?!
* We have our solutions for our life, but Jesus may have a completely different solution
* Eternal death is worse than being disabled for 38 years
* We aren’t expected to have a perfect answer for how Jesus is working in our life
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| Relevant technical details:* “Jerusalem “ (v.1) = World famous religious center with a huge Temple (v.14)
* “Feast of the Jews” (v.1) = One of three annual events Jewish males were required to attend
* “Invalid” (v.5) = Apparently a form of paralysis or lameness, see v. 8.
* “Sabbath” (v.9) = Saturday, the Jewish holy day
* “Law” (v.10) = A big chunk of the first part of the Bible, some say there were 613 specific laws to keep
* “Get up” (v.8) = Same word at times used for the resurrection (Rom. 6:4, 1 Cor. 15:13-14,16-17)

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| Possible illustrations:* The first half of your talk while laying on a mat
* Have a pool of water... pool of water vs. Jesus = our plans/hope vs. Jesus’ way for our life
* Jesus asks, do you want to get well... We answer (fill in the blank): I want to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (get in the pool, be popular, have a better family, date someone, stop feeling sad) We have our answers, Jesus offers a completely different answer
* Question: Do you (really) want to get well? CS Lewis quote: “It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”― C.S. Lewis, The Weight of Glory
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*For more details see ylhelp.com*

**John 5:1–15 (NIV84) — 1** Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. **2** Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. **3** Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. **5** One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” **7** “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.” **8** Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” **9** At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, **10** and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.” **11** But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ” **12** So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?” **13** The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there. **14** Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” **15** The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.