# 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 |
| 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! |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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) |
| 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 |

*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.