

John 5:1-14 New Living Translation

Jesus Heals a Lame Man

1 Afterward Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. **2** Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda,^[a] with five covered porches. **3** Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches.^[b] **5** One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?”

7 “I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.”

8 Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!”

9 Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! But this miracle happened on the Sabbath, **10** so the Jewish leaders objected. They said to the man who was cured, “You can’t work on the Sabbath! The law doesn’t allow you to carry that sleeping mat!”

11 But he replied, “The man who healed me told me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

12 “Who said such a thing as that?” they demanded.

13 The man didn’t know, for Jesus had disappeared into the crowd.

14 But afterward Jesus found him in the Temple and told him, “Now you are well; so stop sinning, or something even worse may happen to you.”

Footnotes:

a **5:2** Other manuscripts read *Beth-zatha*; still others read *Bethsaida*.

b **5:3** Some manuscripts add an expanded conclusion to verse 3 and all of verse 4: *waiting for a certain movement of the water, 4 for an angel of the Lord came from time to time and stirred up the water. And the first person to step in after the water was stirred was healed of whatever disease he had.*

Questions:

1. What question did Jesus ask the lame man?

2. How did the lame man respond?

What was the lame man putting his faith in?

3. Have you ever put your faith or trust in something besides Jesus? What was the result of that decision?

4. Why is it important to put your trust in Jesus?

5. Describe how you put your trust in Jesus?

How does the decision to put your trust in Jesus affect your daily life?