

**February 27, 2022**

**John 5:1-5**

**The Life that Jesus brings with it a high calling**

**John 5:1-5**

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. 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. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

**John 5:6-7**

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?” “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.

**Do you want to get well?**

**John 5:8-9a**

Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

**John 5:14**

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.”

**What Jesus did for this man physically is EXACTLY what he has done for us spiritually.**

**Now sin no more.**

**Ephesians 4:1**

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

**The life that Jesus offers brings with it a high calling**

**John 5:9b-13**

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?” The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

**How do we fight?**

1. **We don't fight in the dark.** (The more your sin stays hidden, the more power it has)
2. **We don't fight alone.** (Healing comes in the form of community. We are weak by ourselves.)
3. **We don't fight to lose.** (This isn't a losing battle. It's the opposite. We're fighting from victory)