

Date: February 8, 2015 // **Title:** Do You Want to Get Well? // **Scripture:** John 5: 1-9

ARRIVAL / SOCIAL TIME *15-20 minutes*

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Also, find time to catch up together on how the assignments from last week turned out.

SERMON REVIEW *5-10 minutes*

In John 5 we find a man who has been an invalid for 38 years, lying at the pool of Bethesda. Jesus shows up, knows the man's condition, and asks the question, "Do you want to get well?" The man's response comes from his perception of his reality: he was trusting in the wrong solution, and he didn't have relationships to show him the right answers. Culture wants to teach us what is right and wrong. For example, Randy talked about how pornography and the objectification of women in our culture have robbed us from the true covenant of God's heart for marriage and sex. Jeremiah 2:13 speaks about how we have created broken cisterns that can't hold water. We do not have a healthy view for God's hope and healing for our lives. Jesus comes to this man, for the purpose of showing true love, hope and healing. He asks the man to get up, take up his mat and walk. We don't walk in perfection, but we do need to get up and walk. He is a God that never stops seeking His own.

THE MAIN THOUGHT *keep this in mind as you facilitate discussion*

Jesus doesn't want us to stay in our sin or to allow our sin be our identity. He wants to take us to mighty places in His Kingdom.

SEE IT – Questions *10-15 minutes*

Picture:

Where did Jesus go and why? Why was the man stuck at the pool of Bethesda? What was his response to Jesus's question, "Do you want to get well?" Why was his response wrong? What three things did Jesus tell him to do? What brought him healing?

Mirror:

Like the man at the pool, where are the places you have stayed too long? Why do you feel stuck there? If Jesus were to ask you the question, "Do you want to be well?" what would your response be? If you said yes, what would it look like for you to "get up?" What would it look like to "take your mat?" What would it look like to walk?

Window:

Are there places where you have seen your sin affect others? If you were to obey Jesus by getting up, taking your mat and walking, how would that affect those around you? Seeing your sin, how does this help you extend grace to others who might be stuck as well?

BE IT – Practice

Change UP // Exercise *15 minutes*

Spend some time in individual prayer. Jesus knows us. He knew the man, and He knows where you are struggling or needing to "get up." Look to Jesus! Ask Him to show you the places where you are still "stuck by the pool." Ask Him to show you where you are looking for answers instead of looking to Him. Confess that as sin.

Change IN // Group Activity *5 minutes*

Break up into small groups. Pray for the areas where you still need to get up and take up your mat. Let's celebrate! Go around your group and share places in your life where you have gotten up and are now walking!

Change OUT // Life Application Assignment *5 minutes*

Pray together for opportunities to be healthy community for someone you know who is struggling to get up. This might be someone in your own group or that God has brought to your mind. Look for an opportunity to interact with them this week.

CLOSING PRAYER *5 minutes*

Take a few minutes to gather any prayer requests and pray for each other to SEE IT and BE IT this week.