



D'WELL BITES

12 MARCH

JOHN 5

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Introduction:

In John 5, we encounter the story of Jesus healing a man who had been paralyzed for 38 years. This miraculous event occurs on the Sabbath, at the Pool of Bethesda which is known for its healing traditions. This passage illustrates Jesus' divine power to heal the sick, His authority, and the new life He offers to the people.

The Setting:

The scene unfolds at the Pool of Bethesda, where the sick, blind, and lame gathered in hopes of a miracle whenever the waters were stirred.

Among them was a man in despair, having suffered for 38 years. This period symbolises both the long hope that he held in his heart and the struggle of yearning for healing without an answer until Jesus encountered him.

In this reflection, I will focus not on Jesus' power to heal but on His desire and compassionate heart to reach those in need.

Reflection Points (The 3 As)

1. Build **Awareness**

Verse 6a: "When Jesus saw him... when He realized..."

As Jesus moved through the community, He was sensitive to the conditions of those around Him. With His eyes, He observed their situations; with His heart, He recognized their needs. As God sends us out to reach souls, we must cultivate awareness and open our eyes and hearts to see the needs of those around us. This can serve as a bridge, paving the way for us to build relationships and demonstrate God's love for them.

2. Take **Action**

Verse 6b: "He said to him, 'Do you want to become well?'"

Not only did Jesus perceive the needs of those around Him, but He also took action to address them. Upon seeing the paralysed man, He went further to engage him, understand his plight and offer help.

What about us? When we notice people in need, are our hearts moved to take the next step and ask, "What do you need?" Or do we simply turn around and walk away?

3. **Activate** Resources

Verses 8-9: Jesus said to him, “Stand up!

Pick up your mat and walk.”

Immediately the man was healed, and he picked up his mat and started walking.

Jesus, who is God, possesses the power to heal. His words have power. By His words, this world was created. By His words, the paralyzed man could walk. He utilises this divine source to effect change.

What about us? If God has blessed us with various resources, are we willing to use them to bless those in need? If we have free time, are we willing to spend it with someone who needs companionship? If we have skills, do we want to employ them to assist others? If we possess blessings, are we prepared to share them with those in need?

This year, CMC's Spiritual Direction is 'Greater'. What 'Greater' acts can we take to reach others for Christ?