

Do you want to get well?

John 5:1-16

I. Some people **really do** want to get well.

 John 5:1-3 (NIV84) "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."

 John 5:4 (NKJV) "For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had."

II. Some people **do not really** want to get well.

 John 5:5-7 (NIV84) "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."

 John 5:8-9a (NIV84) "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."

III. Some people **do not care** when others get well.

 John 5:9b-10 (NIV84) "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."

 John 5:11-13 (NIV84) "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."

IV. Some people **enjoy sinning more** than staying well.

 John 5:14(NIV84) 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."

1. Hell is a place **with an unquenchable fire**. (Mark 9:43)
2. Hell is a place **of outer darkness**. (Matthew 25:30)
3. Hell is a place **that was never meant for us**. (Matthew 25:41)
4. Hell is a place **where people weep and gnash their teeth**. (Matthew 13:42)
5. Hell is a place **of eternal torment**. (Luke 16:19-31)

 John 5:15-16 (NIV84) "The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. ¹⁶ So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted Him."

Digging Deeper: Do you want to get well? What do you need Jesus to do that only He can do? Do you know anyone that  seems to be happy in their misery? Can you describe a time when God spoke bluntly to you? Do you agree or disagree that some of the meanest people on earth go to church? If so, why is that? Is there a sin that you keep returning to? Are you willing to do what it takes to get well and stay well? Do you believe that Hell is a real place? If so, what are you doing to keep people out of there?