

Part 3: The Miracles That Changed Everything (Volume 1)
(The Miraculous Impact of Wanting To Get Well)

August 21, 2022

Introduction: Five Questions For You to Ponder

1. What is your long-term hindrance (v1-5)
2. What is your excuse? (v7).....**It may be valid or misperceived by you!**
3. What do you need to do? (v8-10)
4. Who is hindering your advancement? (v11-13)
5. What specific sin can throw your life off the rails? (v14-15)

I. The Journey of a Lame Man Described

1. He Had One Long-term Issue (Thirty-eight years of being paralyzed)

- John 5:1–15 (NIV84): 5 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. 5 **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?”**

2. He Had Two Excuses (No help, someone always goes down ahead of me)

- 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.”**

3. He Had Two Challenges (Get Up and Pick Up)

- 8 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. 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.”**

Question: Are you too lazy to take advantage of your miracle provision?

4. He Faced a Surprise Hindrance: (The Jews challenged the healing of the lame man)

- 11 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.

5. He Had One **Opportunity to Change (Stop sinning and Self-Sabotaging)**

- 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.” 15 The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

Question: Are you a lame man that is still doing things that you know are wrong?

A Question This Text Challenges Us To Answer:

- Have you allowed something in your life to **stop you from being healed, throw you off** your priorities, and **entangle you**?

Note: Hebrews 12:1-3

- **12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us **throw off everything that hinders** and **the sin that so easily entangles**. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, **2** fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **3** Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart

II. Five Miraculous Lessons From the Lame Man

1. Some **challenges** can last for many years
2. Excuses can be our hiding place that **block** our potential
3. There comes a day when we must get up and by **faith** try something new
4. Accept that some people will never **celebrate** your miraculous potential
5. You must take advantage of a **chance** to start over again and “**stop self-sabotaging**”

Next Time: The Miraculous Impact Using What You Have

Read Ahead: John 1:1-15