

John 5:1–14 marks a turning point in the Gospel of John, where Jesus' public ministry begins to stir conflict with Jewish religious leaders. The passage takes place in Jerusalem during an unnamed Jewish festival. At the Pool of Bethesda—a place believed to have healing powers—Jesus encounters a man who had been disabled for 38 years. This miracle, performed on the Sabbath, directly challenges prevailing interpretations of the law regarding work and healing on holy days.

The broader context includes several important themes in John's Gospel: Jesus' divine authority, his power to give life, and the idea that true healing comes from him, not from traditional or superstitious practices.

Who would you say are the most marginalised people in our society and why?

Read John 5:1-14

1. Where does this event take place, and what is significant about the location?
2. What condition did the man have, and how long had he been suffering? Are there areas in your life where you've become resigned or hopeless after years of struggle?
3. Why do you think Jesus asked, "Do you want to get well?" even though the man's need was obvious?
4. In what ways do we sometimes *cling* to our brokenness or comfort in our dysfunction?
5. What does the man's response reveal about his mindset or expectations with Jesus?
6. In what ways might we be like the man—waiting for help from the wrong places?
7. What is the reaction of the Jewish leaders to the healing?
8. What might the healing on the Sabbath suggest about Jesus' authority or purpose?
9. Is there an area in your life where Jesus might be asking, "Do you want to be healed?" How would you respond?
10. How do we respond when God's work in our lives challenges our expectations or religious norms?
11. What does Jesus mean when He says, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you" (v. 14)?
12. What does it look like in your life to "pick up your mat and walk" in obedience? Are you someone who is sometimes hesitant or slow in responding to Jesus' leading? Why is that?
13. How can we become more ready and willing to move in obedience to the Spirit's leading with those who are marginalised?

Prayer Points

Pray for the ongoing needs for volunteers with regards to Toddlers, cooks and Limitless on Tuesday nights.

Praise God for BMS-supported workers Mariia and Youness in Tours, France, who use the national food of people seeking sanctuary in their town to offer hospitality and build relationships based on trust and friendship.

Sermon Notes

Seeing the M _____

Seeing the K _____

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001



BIBLE STUDY

July 13th 2025

Pool Side Healing:

John 5:1-14

John 1–7 presents key themes that reveal Jesus' identity and mission. Jesus is the eternal Word of God, bringing light and life to a dark world. He calls people to believe in Him for eternal life, but many reject Him despite His miracles and teachings. A central theme is new birth—spiritual transformation through the Holy Spirit. Jesus offers living water and calls Himself the Bread of Life, showing He alone satisfies the soul. These chapters also highlight growing conflict and division, as people respond to Him with belief, confusion, or hostility. Through signs and deep conversations, Jesus reveals His divine nature and the offer of salvation to all, regardless of background or status.