

Clarence Park Baptist Church

Question for Week following service 23rd May 2021

A CAST OF Characters

COMMON PEOPLE in the HANDS of AN UNCOMMON GOD



WORSHIP God **GROW** Together **SERVE** Others

Week 5 – The Paralyse Man
John 5:1-15

Preparation <https://youtu.be/Zqsc7bUzl88>

1. Watch the sermon from the church YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/cS7aK8WFgUc>
2. Read the passages on the next page and reflect on the questions before meeting with the rest of the group to explore your journeys together

Group Study

- Begin with a time of prayer – asking God to help you learn something new

Reading:

John 5:1-15 New International Version - UK

The healing at the pool

⁵ Sometime later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. 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 paralysed. 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?'

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.' 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 Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, 'It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.' 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.

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 Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

New International Version - UK (NIVUK)

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Questions for discussion

Reflect and share your experiences together using the following questions.

Take time at the end to ask what is God teaching you this week to help you grow as a disciple of Jesus?

1. Is there anything from the readings or message this week that stood out to you?
2. How often do you choose to deliberately be among those who are suffering? Is Jesus' presence at the pool of Bethesda an encouragement to you or a rebuke – or both? Explain.
3. In what way is the sick man's life story really your story and my story?
4. The man said to Jesus that he couldn't get into the water because he was out of options. Why was this necessary? And how does this relate to your spiritual life story?
5. Read Colossians 2:13-15. List the things that Jesus has achieved for you.
6. Is there are area in your life today where Jesus might be telling you to "stand up!" If so, what? And what do you plan to do about it?

Prayer

Take some time to share prayer needs, pray for one another, for the church and for our local community before finishing with the words of the grace.