

DO YOU WANT TO BE WELL?

Foundations of Healing #6

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“Afterward Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?” “I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.” Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!” Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! But this miracle happened on the Sabbath, so the Jewish leaders objected. They said to the man who was cured, “You can’t work on the Sabbath! The law doesn’t allow you to carry that sleeping mat!” But he replied, “The man who healed me told me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ” “Who said such a thing as that?” they demanded. The man didn’t know, for Jesus had disappeared into the crowd. But afterward Jesus found him in the Temple and told him, “Now you are well; so stop sinning, or something even worse may happen to you.” Then the man went and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had healed him.” (John 5:1–15, NLT)

The Sabbath was made by God to bring good gifts to us not to deny or oppress us.

Suffering and sickness are not a manifestation of personal sin.

In this case Jesus calls the man to repentance so there may be a link to his illness.

The problem was not the Law but the lack of love for the Giver of the Law.

1. I WANT TO BE COMPLETELY WELL.

“Would you like to get well?” (John 5:6, NLT)

2. STOP WHINING and MAKING EXCUSES.

“I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.”
(John 5:7, NLT)

“Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.”
- John Wooden

“You were whining, and the LORD heard you when you cried, “Oh, for some meat! We were better off in Egypt!” Now the LORD will give you meat, and you will have to eat it. And it won’t be for just a day or two, or for five or ten or even twenty. You will eat it for a whole month until you gag and are sick of it. For you have rejected the LORD, who is here among you, and you have whined to him, saying, “Why did we ever leave Egypt?”
(Numbers 11:18–20, NLT)

3. MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RESPOND TO GOD’S PROMISES.

“Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!”
(John 5:8, NLT)

“In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God’s promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge,” (2 Peter 1:5, NLT)

Faith makes no provision for failure.

Fear of embarrassment shuts out of the promises of God.

“But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. And we are confident in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we commanded you. May the Lord lead your hearts into a full understanding and expression of the love of God and the patient endurance that comes from Christ.” (2 Thessalonians 3:3–5, NLT)

4. GET TO REALLY KNOW JESUS.

“But he did not know who Jesus was, and Jesus had left because of the crowd.” (John 5:13, CEV)

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28–30, NIV)

- a. COME.
- b. TAKE.
- c. LEARN.