

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 6, Episode 17

Battling A 38 Year Trial

John 5:1-10

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus asked the disabled man, "Do you want to get well?" (John 5:6)?
2. What does the setting of the healing (the pool of Bethesda, five colonnades) symbolically represent?
3. How does the 38 years of disability parallel Israel's 38 years of wilderness wandering?
4. What significance does it have that Jesus heals the man on the Sabbath?
5. Why was the disabled man's first response about not having help rather than answering Jesus' question directly?
6. How does understanding the superstition around the pool help us better interpret this passage?
7. What does this healing story reveal about Jesus' compassion toward the "unclean" and marginalized?
8. Why is it significant that the man didn't even know who healed him?

9. What role do hopelessness and helplessness play in the man's story — and ours?
 10. How does this passage challenge our assumptions about spiritual and physical healing?
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Application Questions:

1. Is there an area in your life where you've grown accustomed to "being stuck" rather than seeking true healing?
 2. How would you honestly answer Jesus if He asked you today, "Do you want to get well?"
 3. What "old ways of life" might you have to leave behind if Jesus were to bring healing to an area of your life?
 4. How can prolonged trials lead to spiritual paralysis, not just physical or emotional struggles?
 5. In what ways have you placed hope in "pools" or worldly solutions instead of Jesus?
 6. How can you practice recognizing Jesus even when you don't "feel" His presence in your suffering?
 7. What does it look like to respond in faith when Jesus calls you to "get up" even when you feel paralyzed?
 8. What steps can you take this week to depend on Jesus rather than your circumstances or resources?
 9. How can you offer hope and encouragement to someone stuck in a long-term trial?
 10. How is God inviting you to trust Him for breakthrough, even if you've been waiting a long time?
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Prayer Prompt:

"Lord Jesus, You are the true healer of body, mind, and spirit. Help us to hear Your voice when You ask us if we want to be made well. Give us courage to leave behind old ways of living and

trust You with every area of brokenness and pain. Renew our hope in long trials. Strengthen us to walk by faith, not by sight. May we point others to the life-giving power found only in You. Amen."

Additional Resources for Deeper Study:

- **Scripture Reading:**

- John 5:1-18 (The healing at Bethesda)
- Isaiah 35:5-6 (Promise of healing in the Messianic age)
- Exodus 16–17 (Israel's wilderness wandering)

- **Related Sermons and Podcasts:**

- *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast*, Seasons 1–6
- *Making Disciples with Robby Gallaty Podcast* — episodes on perseverance and healing.

- **Books and Studies:**

- *The Forgotten Jesus* by Robby Gallaty — especially sections about seeing Jesus' ministry through Jewish eyes
- *F260 Bible Reading Plan* (focus on Gospel readings to see Jesus' miracles and signs)

- **Videos:**

- Long Hollow Church YouTube Channel: Watch Pastor Robby's sermons on perseverance, healing, and faith.
- *The Chosen Series*: Episode on the Pool of Bethesda (Season 2, Episode 4: "The Perfect Opportunity") – a dramatic and faithful depiction of this scene