

Trinity Church, Sarnia
Lenten Bible Study – 2021
7 Signs of God's Love
With Canon Vicars Hodge

Week #3. John 5:1-15 The Healing at the Pool of Bethesda

Questions¹:

Open:

1. When you get sick what are you like? A puppy? Superman? Rip Van Winkle?

Dig

1. How do you picture the scene in vv2-4? The sounds? The smell? The mood? How would you feel in a place like this?
2. How do you picture the paralyzed man? (vv.5-7) What does Jesus mean by his question in v.6? What did the invalid hope that Jesus might do?
3. As the invalid, what do you feel in verses 8-9? In verses 10-12? In v. 13? In verse 14?
4. Why were the leaders so upset? What is revealed about Jesus in his response to the authorities. (v.17)
5. In v.24 Jesus claims that “anyone who believes in him who has sent me has eternal life.” When does someone start to possess eternal life?
6. Re-Read v.25-30. How would you describe the work that God the Father and God the Son are in?

Reflect

1. In your own spiritual journey when did you come to understand this truth? How did it affect your self-image. Your life-style? Your life goals?

Group Norms to enhance our experience

- **Try to make attendance a priority..**
- **Try to stay “on topic.”** Stick to the passage being studied. Seek to find the answers in the text.
- **Everyone participates and no one dominates.** We are sometimes so eager to share what we have learned that we don't leave room for others. By all means participate – but leave space for others.
- **Be sensitive to the other members of the Group.** We respect each other and can all learn from each other. There are no ‘dumb’ questions.
- **Support for one another is part of our life** as followers of Jesus.
- **Confidentiality matters:** When someone shares something of private nature, that stays in the group. We tell our own stores, if we want – not other people's.

Suggestions for getting the most out of a LIFE² Group

Everyone

- Try to read the passage we will study in advance of our meeting.
- Bring an attitude of expectancy – God wants to open his Word for you and me.... Come expecting to receive some good word.
- Stay in touch with each other during the week, where appropriate.

People who want more....

- Pre-read the questions and think about them a bit.
- Read the Gospel of John in the next week or two. Recommended translations: (ESV, NRSV, NASB, NIV, TPT)
- Each week, after the study, re-read the passage & questions– to reinforce what you have learned.

The Keeners – looking for an A+

- Read John through in a second, different translation like “The Message” (MSG), New Living Translation (NLT), JB Phillips or “The Good News”
- Make a list of questions you would like answered and send them to trinity@trinitysarnia.org

¹ With a “hat's off” to the Serendipity Bible for some of these questions.

² LIFE: Learning, Insight, Friends, Encouragement: these are our four objectives.