



Sermon Notes

Embracing Hope Part 27 – Hope for the Hurting August 2, 2020

When we cry out to God in our hurt, He hears us.

Psalm 34:17

*¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;
he delivers them from all their troubles.*

John 5:1-9

¹ Some time 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 paralyzed - and they waited for the moving of the waters. ⁴ From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters. The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease they had. 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.

3 Questions to Ask About This Story:

- 1. Why was Jesus in this side of the city?**
- 2. Why did Jesus single this man out?**
- 3. Why did Jesus ask him this question?**

We need to grasp what a great and awesome God we serve:

- God wants to have an encounter with us*
- God will seek us out*
- God is willing to meet us at our place of shame.*

Jesus knew this man was helpless..

Jesus knew this man was broken.

Psalm 34:18

*¹⁸ The LORD is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit*

Jesus knew this man was ready.



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Romans 7:21-25

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 7:18

¹⁸ I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

If we are really ready for change, God is really ready to change us.

Freedom is God's idea.

Jeremiah 30:17

*¹⁷ But I will restore you to health
and heal your wounds,'
declares the LORD,
because you are called an outcast*

Psalms 146:7-8 (NLT)

*⁷ He gives justice to the oppressed
and food to the hungry.
The LORD frees the prisoners.
⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are weighed down*

Jesus didn't ask the man if he wanted a more comfortable mat.

God doesn't want us to manage our struggles.

God is calling us out.

Response:

1. Get up!

2. Throw away the mat

Hebrews 12:1

¹ ...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us



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