



CONNECTING
PEOPLE TO GOD | PEOPLE TO PEOPLE | PEOPLE TO OUTREACH

Discussion Questions: John 5:10-16

Jesus' healing exposes more than physical need—it exposes the heart. The healed man is restored physically, but Jesus does not stop there; He confronts him personally about sin and the seriousness of spiritual consequences. At the same time, the religious leaders reveal their own blindness by becoming more concerned with Sabbath enforcement than with the fact that a suffering man has been made whole. The passage therefore holds two warnings side by side: restored people are called to a changed life, and religious people can become so attached to rules that they miss the work and authority of God right in front of them.

1. Why do you think the religious leaders focused more on the healed man carrying his mat than on the fact that he had been healed after thirty-eight years?

2. What are some ways Christians today can become so focused on rules, traditions, or preferences that they miss evidence of God's grace in someone's life?

3. The study from Sunday stated, "Rules had become more important than redemption." What might that look like in a church or Christian community today?

4. The man had lived with his condition for thirty-eight years. How can living with a problem, struggle, sin, disappointment, or weakness for a long time begin to shape the way we see ourselves?

5. Why is it significant that Jesus first healed the man and later returned to speak to him about holiness? What does this teach us about the relationship between grace and obedience?

6. What do you think the statement “Grace precedes obedience” means in practical Christian living?

7. Jesus told the man, “Sin no more.” How should Christians talk about the seriousness and consequences of sin without falling into legalism or self-righteousness?

8. Sunday’s message clarified that Jesus was not teaching that every sickness is caused by a person’s individual sin. Why is that distinction important?

9. According to John 5, why is spiritual transformation a greater need than physical relief or improved circumstances?

10. “Grace never leaves us unchanged.” What evidence of transformation should begin to appear in the life of someone who has experienced Christ’s grace?

11. What is the difference between wanting forgiveness and genuinely wanting transformation? Why might people desire one without the other?

12. How does self-righteousness cause people to resist Jesus, and how is the gospel different from the belief that our own morality makes us acceptable to God?

13. The healed man faced questioning simply because he obeyed Jesus. What kinds of misunderstanding, criticism, or opposition might obedience to Christ bring today?

14. How should Christians respond when faithfulness to Christ costs them approval, popularity, relationships, or comfort?

15. The conclusion says that John's purpose is not merely for us to be impressed by the miracle, but to be amazed by Jesus Himself. How does this miracle reveal Jesus' authority over helplessness, sin, death, and spiritual life?
