

WILL THIS EVER CHANGE?

JOHN 5:1-5 - ERIC SIMPSON - OCTOBER 21, 2018



Bethesda = house of grace, house of outpouring

John 5:3-9

³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie-- the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. 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. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath.

> Honesty

A good journey begins with knowing where you are and being willing to go someplace else.

John 5:9-10

⁹ ...The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, ¹⁰ and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat."

"As long as we continue to try to hide our brokenness from ourselves, from others, and from God, we cannot expect any serious change or healing in our lives. We're simply play-acting at life, wearing masks to hide our weaknesses and shortcomings while failing to face the root issues that are slowly destroying us from within like a cancer of the soul." - Chris Webb

When the pain of your current circumstances exceeds the pain of change—things start changing.

> Courage - sift motives, sort thru fears, confront sin

"I discovered that unresolved feelings do not flutter away in the wind. They deposit themselves in the strata of our souls and lie waiting to escape. They are all there: the resentments, the despair, the anxieties, the worries, the fears. When we're young, we have enough energy to keep them from geysering, but as the years accumulate we lose our ability to push them underground." - Gordon Macdonald

John 5:11-13

¹¹ But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'" ¹² So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?" ¹³ The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

> Faith - a belief that God can make a way when there seems to be no way

Sign posted by the pool of Bethesda today:

