

INTRO

- What is something you once thought would make life feel more complete, but discovered it wasn't quite what you expected?

Jesus asked over 300 questions across the four Gospels. Why? Because his questions were designed to go deeper, probing our hearts, desires, assumptions, and lives. In our current series, **Questions Worth Answering**, we'll sit with some of those questions because the questions Jesus asked *then* are still worth answering *now*.

READ

John 5:1-15

Q: Share one thing that stands out to you from the text.

REFLECT & RESPOND

A strange question

Jesus asks a man who has been disabled for 38 years, "Do you want to get well?"

Q: Why do you think Jesus asks the man? What might this question reveal about the difference between wanting our circumstances to change and being open to the life Jesus offers?

Our pools of hope

The man explains why he cannot reach the pool where he hopes to find healing. Similarly, we can have our own "pool" of hopes, where we look to something or someone to make us whole. For example, a career, money, relationship, achievement, etc.

Q: How can we tell when something good has become something we expect to make us whole?

The encounter challenges us to consider where we place our deepest hopes. Good things like

relationships, career success, financial security, and personal achievement can become things we depend on for ultimate wholeness.

Q: Name your pool, something you rely on for security, identity, comfort, or peace.

Grace we cannot produce

Jesus heals the man without any recorded request for healing or prior expression of faith. In fact, the man doesn't even know who Jesus is!

Q: What does this suggest about grace? How might it change how we approach Jesus when we feel stuck, or how we respond to someone who is struggling?

Getting well and Living well

Later on, Jesus tells the same man to stop sinning. Grace comes before this call to change, but it does not make how we live irrelevant.

Q: What might it look like to receive Jesus' grace while allowing him to reshape our priorities, habits, or relationships? Where might you need to take a next step?

Jesus offers more than improved circumstances. His grace meets us where we are and invites us into a new life under his authority. Grace comes first, but it also calls us to change.

PRAY

- Ask Jesus to reveal where you have placed your hope in things that cannot ultimately make you whole.
- Pray for those who feel stuck, helpless, or are still waiting for healing. Ask for God's intervention, strength, and sustaining grace.