

Is Neutral Your Only Forward Gear?

John 5:1 - 9

-People are searching for God today  
**MORE** than at any time in history!

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. <sup>3</sup> In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed.

<sup>3</sup> In these lay a multitude of invalids—  
blind, lame, and paralyzed – waiting  
for the moving of the water, <sup>4</sup> because  
an angel would go down into the pool  
from the time to time and stir up the  
water.

Then, the first one who got in after the water stirred up recovered from whatever ailment he had. <sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been sick for 38 years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and knew he had already been there a long time, He said to him, 'Do you want to get well?'"

7 'Sir,' the sick man answered, 'I don't  
Have a man to put me into the pool  
when the water is stirred up, but while  
I'm coming, someone goes down ahead  
of me.' Jesus answered, 'get up, pick up  
your mat and walk!'

<sup>9</sup> Instantly, the man got well, picked up his mat and started to walk. Now that day was the Sabbath.

John 5:1-9

1) We **WANT** an encounter with God.

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-Jesus went up to Jerusalem. By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda, which has five porches. Within these lay a large number of the sick, blind, lame and paralyzed **WAITING** for the moving of the waters. (v. 1-3)

A) Here is a man who was **hurting**.

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B) Here is a man who was **helpless**.

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B) Here is a man who was **helpless**.

C) Here is a man who was **hopeless**.

2) We look **ANYWHERE** for an encounter  
with God.

3) We need only **ONE** encounter with  
God.

The Solution –

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C) Be willing to do the impossible for  
Jesus!

- He said, “yes, but I....”

- He said, “yes, but I....”
- What we should say is, “yes, Lord you..”

