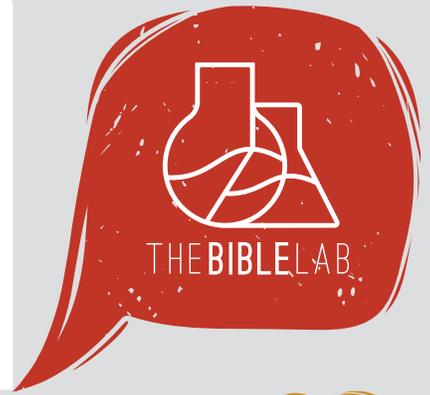


# SESSION 6

Do You Want To Get Well?



YES • NO • MAYBE

NOTES

1. My birthday gifts always exceed my expectations.
2. Jesus only helps people who are willing to help themselves.
3. Jesus decided to not heal some people, because they didn't truly want it.
4. God does not keep the Sabbath.
5. From time to time, God asks people to break the Sabbath rules.

## DIG DEEP

### JESUS TAKES A DETOUR

• READ John 5:1-5 (NLT).

1. *Afterward Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. 2 Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. 3 Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. 5 One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?”*

### THE QUESTION WITH THE NOT-SO-OBVIOUS ANSWER:

° In John 5:6 Jesus asks the man, “Do you want to get well?”

∞ Is this a serious question? What do you think Jesus was asking?

∞ Why wouldn't the man want to get well?

∞ What are the man's expectations?

∞ What is Jesus' expectation?

## DIG DEEP...CONTINUED

- **READ John 5:8-12, 16-20 (NLT)**

8 Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!"

9 Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! But this miracle happened on the Sabbath, 10 so the Jewish leaders objected. They said to the man who was cured, "You can't work on the Sabbath! The law doesn't allow you to carry that sleeping mat!"

11 But he replied, "The man who healed me told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"

12 "Who said such a thing as that?" they demanded.

...

16 So the Jewish leaders began harassing Jesus for breaking the Sabbath rules. 17 But Jesus replied, "My Father is always working, and so am I." 18 So the Jewish leaders tried all the harder to find a way to kill him. For he not only broke the Sabbath, he called God his Father, thereby making himself equal with God.

19 So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. 20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished.

» How does Jesus view the Sabbath differently than the Jewish leaders?

- What do you think Jesus meant by "My Father is always working"?

- What does it say about God's character that he would risk this polarizing misunderstanding with the church leadership?

- What does it show about God that he is willing to make enemies within the church in order to bring healing and restoration to even the superstitious membership?

## MY PRAYERS

1. How much do my expectations match up with God's?
2. How much of my beliefs are based on relationship or rules?
3. How do I see God a little differently now?