

# John

## Chapter 5

**FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Five**

### **Summary: Verses 1-47**

1. Jesus travels to the pool at Bethesda in Jerusalem and sees a man who has been sick for 38 years among the large group of ill people waiting for the water to be stirred. Jesus asks the man an obvious question: "Do you want to be healed?". To which the man responds giving practical reasons why he has not been healed yet.
2. Jesus instructs the man to get up and walk, and he is immediately healed. He then encounters the Jewish leaders, who ignore the miracle and comment only about the legality of carrying his mat on the Sabbath, exposing their focus on legalism and religion.
3. The man tries to refer them to Jesus, perhaps out of fear, but he had already disappeared into the crowd. Jesus then reconnects with the man in the temple and encourages him to sin no more, and the man reports back to the Jews that it was Jesus who healed him.
4. The Jews begin to harass Jesus about working on the Sabbath and He leads off by referring to God as His father, only further angering them.
5. Jesus describes his Father as his example and source, and begins to establish the authority that the Father has given Him. He will be the judge of man, and man should honor the Son and the Father equally.
6. Jesus teaches them about spiritual life and death, based on belief or disbelief in Him and His Father. His Father gave him the same life that He has in Himself to share with the world.
7. Jesus declares his dependence on the Father for His works and purpose.
8. Jesus reminds the Jews that they have never seen or heard God, but they have His Son in front of them, whom they can see and hear, and still do not believe.
9. Jesus rebukes the Jews for being so religious that they miss His teachings and overlook that the Scriptures point to Him – even the ones they have memorized from Moses.
10. Jesus reprimands the Jews for honoring each other, but not honoring God or His Son.

### **REFLECTION**

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. In what ways can Christians be religious and miss Jesus' teachings and purpose?
3. What are some thought patterns in your own life that are potential hindrances to Jesus working in your situation?
4. Are you more reliant on practical pathways or supernatural provision?
5. Why is it sometimes easier to be complacent than obedient?
6. What is the biggest hindrance of a religious mindset?
7. How do you handle situations where others may feel differently about your faith walk than yourself?
8. How do other people's opinions influence your walk with God?

### **APPLICATION**

1. What is a step of faith you can practically take this week to bring you closer to trusting God?
2. Is there something God has told you to do that you constantly struggle to obey? What is it? Why is it a struggle?

