

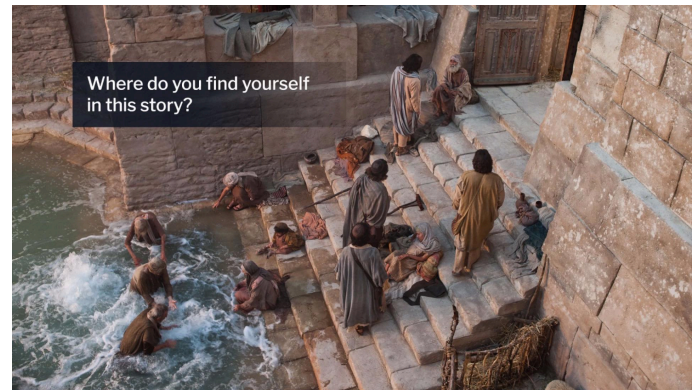


Pastor Tom Kang

pt3: No Swimming on the Sabbath (John 5:1-18)

Icebreaker: Did you grow up as a rule follower or a rule breaker? Share a memorable example or story.

1) Take some time to read through the bible passage from the sermon: John 5:1-18. As you do, look at the following picture and ask yourself, “Where do you find yourself in this story?” Share your reflections as a group.



2) What is a "Pool of Bethesda" in your own life? Is there a situation where you feel stuck while waiting for something to change, but nothing seems to happen?

3) Jesus asked, “Do you want to get well?” How would you honestly answer this question in your own life? Are there areas where you resist change, even though you desire healing or breakthrough?

4) Jesus didn’t help the man into the pool; He told him to get up and walk. Have you ever waited for God to work in a certain way, only to find that He had a completely different plan? How did that shape your faith?

5) The religious leaders focused on rules (the man carrying his mat on the sabbath) rather than the miracle itself. Are there traditions, expectations, or mindsets in your life that might be limiting how you see God working?

6) Take some time to reflect and respond to the following three practical steps that are offered from the sermon:

1. Identify your “Pool of Bethesda”: what broken system are you waiting on for solutions?
2. Examine your “Religious Mat”: what religious rules are preventing you from experiencing God’s power?
3. Respond to Jesus’ command: how might you respond to “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

