

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Use the following questions below for individual or group study. Begin in prayer, inviting the Spirit to speak during this time.

Share with the Group

Think through the four different people we've encountered in this series (Nicodemus, the Woman, the Official, and the Man). Who do you most relate to and why? How does their story challenge and encourage you?

Read John 5:1-30

Who are the main characters in this passage? How would you describe them based only on what you see in these verses?

Why do you think Jesus seeks this particular man out?

Why is it important to understand that the argument in this passage is about Jesus' authority and identity, not legalism or the ongoing authority of the Torah?

In what ways does Jesus describe himself as equal to the Father? In what ways does he distinguish himself from the Father?

What does this passage teach about the resurrection of the dead?

Read Daniel 7:9-14

The title "Son of Man" comes from the book of Daniel, Jesus uses this title to refer to himself in Jn 5:27. What are the implications of Jesus taking this title? How does Dan 7 help explain both Jesus' own understanding as well as the fact that his listeners were amazed by what he said? What are the implications for how we understand and relate to Jesus?

Talk About It

Pastor Adam talked about the "magic" pool as folk religion. What forms of folk religion do you see in our society (beliefs that are not *actually* Christian, but held or practiced by Christians)? What's the danger here? How do we avoid it?

Jesus asks the man if he wants to get well. Why does Jesus respect our desire/willingness (or lack thereof) for healing and salvation?

Live It

Pray and ask Jesus where he would like to bring healing and salvation into your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any places where you don't yet want to get well. Invite the Father to pour out his love and mercy to transform your heart.

Bonus: Read John 9:1-14 and note the parallels to John 5:1-7.

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