**Scripture** | John 5:1-15 | The Healing at the Pool

This story is found in John 5, Jesus is in Jerusalem for a Jewish festival. In Jerusalem there is s pool that injured people would wade into to get healed. In the city the injured/disabled people would lay down by the Sheep Gate. According to the scripture, whenever the pool started to stir the first person/people in the pool would be healed. This man had no way of getting to the pool and stayed disabled for 38 years! The scripture does not mention his name, it says that Jesus asked him if he wanted to be healed, and instead of replying yes the man replies with a complaint on how no one helps him. Jesus then says to him to stand up, pick up his mat and walk away. Even though it was the sabbath and prohibited to be working or carrying a mat, when the man was healed, he did it anyways out of obedience. The man did not conclude that he was healed and went back to the temple. Jesus then commands him to stop sinning or something worse may happen.

**Observation(s)**

* Man was disabled for 38 years at sheep gate trying to get to pool to be healed
* When asked what he wanted, instead of being straight forward he complained about his situation.
* When Jesus healed him, he commanded him to bring his mat with him
  + This was a huge part of the story, God uses your previous “disability” to show people who you used to be and who you are now!
* When he was healed, he walked away and ended up circling back to the place he was injured. Jesus calls him out for sinning, what I believe is the reason for this is that he went back to the place where he spent the last 38 years. Jesus does not heal us to go back to our old ways but to create new ones!

**Application**

* When talking to Jesus, don’t be complaining rather exalting Him
* When healed, Jesus uses my previous scars to minister to others
* When healed, do not go back to my previous lifestyle, create a new one with Christ
* Don’t give up after time, be persistent!

**Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father,

I pray that I would consistently and persistently pursue you in every situation. I pray that when you heal me and command me to do something such as take my mat and walk that I would do it without hesitation. The thing that I have played on for 38 years that it would be used to minister to people. I pray that when I am healed that I would not go back to my lifestyle in sin. That because I am a Christian that I would stay away from places where the “disabled” are that could be a hinder to my relationship with you.

In Your Holy Amazing Name,

Amen.

Thanks!  
Koleman Parsley