



RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

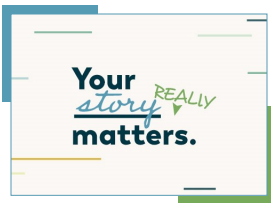
Your *story* matters.



What Do You *Really* Want?

Pastor Tom Lundeen
January 10th, 2021

MYRC.CHURCH



“What Do You Really Want?”

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to _____ people like you and me?

What did He do in people’s _____?

Note [John 5:3, 5, 6](#)

What we’ll see is something Jesus knew about this person then and us now: It’s not always clear what somebody really _____, even if their need seems _____.

1. We Do Not Have to be _____

Note [John 5:1-3, 7](#)

To feel alone is to be overwhelmed by _____.

Jesus recognized that not only could this individual not walk physically, but he was socially and emotionally _____.

What we need to know is that even in a crowd, we _____ to Jesus (note [Hebrews 13:5b](#)).

2. We Do Not Have to be _____

Something extraordinary is happening in American society. Criss-crossed by _____ trip wires of emotional, racial, sexual, and psychological grievance, American life is increasingly characterized by the plaintive insistence, “I am a victim.” The victimization of America is remarkably _____. From the addicts of the South Bronx to the self-styled emotional road-kills of Manhattan’s Upper East Side, the _____ of the victims is the same: “I am not responsible; it’s not my fault.” (Charles Sykes, A Nation of Victims: The Decay of the American Character, 1992)

What point was Jesus making with this _____ question?

He was saying, *You are not completely helpless. You have some choices. You have opportunities to live a _____ life. It's not everyone else's fault. Your circumstances are not simply the result of _____.* Your physical disability and social isolation do not deny you _____.

Note [John 5:7-8, 12-13, 9, 14](#)

...something even worse...

The eternal consequences of sin are more serious than any physical _____. (Morris)

Jesus' question ([John 5:6](#)) demonstrated that this man had some role to play in his _____.

His statement ([John 5:14](#)) showed that this man had some _____ responsibility to take for his life (i.e., moral choice).

Jesus wanted to free this man from the _____ that being a victim brings...

Your story really does matter to *Jesus*:

- This disabled person discovered that the _____ he thought he needed...weren't the answers he actually needed.
- What he needed was _____.
- And what we ultimately need is _____, too.

*Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!
Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).*



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back

SG

Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Icebreaker: What's the longest trip (road, air, sea, camel etc.) you've been on? Tell us a bit about it.

1. What have you seen Jesus do in your life this week, and how do your most compelling *wants* and *needs* line up with each other?
2. If you were the man at the pool, how would the words recorded in [John 5:1-7](#) strike you? What does it take for *you* to see beyond your surface needs to root issues?
3. How has God revealed that you are or have been taking on the role of a victim in your life, and what responsibility do you have in changing your situation? [John 5:8](#)
4. What are some decisions that you can make today that will change the trajectory of your life towards Jesus and away from the slavery of being a victim? [John 5:14](#)

Day One: [Mark 8](#)

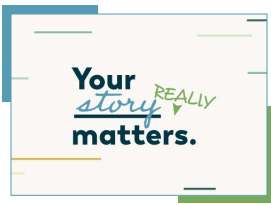
Day Two: [Mark 9](#)

Day Three: [Mark 10](#)

Day Four: [Mark 11](#)

Day Five: [Mark 12](#)

PERSONAL GUIDE



“What Do You Really Want?”

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

What did Jesus have to say to ordinary people like you and me?

What did He do in people’s lives?

Note [John 5:3, 5, 6](#)

What we’ll see is something Jesus knew about this person then and us now: It’s not always clear what somebody really wants, even if their need seems obvious.

1. We Do Not Have to be Alone

Note [John 5:1-3, 7](#)

To feel alone is to be overwhelmed by emptiness.

Jesus recognized that not only could this individual not walk physically, but he was socially and emotionally isolated.

What we need to know is that even in a crowd, we stand out to Jesus (note [Hebrews 13:5b](#)).

2. We Do Not Have to be Victims

*Something extraordinary is happening in American society. Criss-crossed by invisible trip wires of emotional, racial, sexual, and psychological grievance, American life is increasingly characterized by the plaintive insistence, “I am a victim.” The victimization of America is remarkably egalitarian. From the addicts of the South Bronx to the self-styled emotional road-kills of Manhattan’s Upper East Side, the mantra of the victims is the same: “I am not responsible; it’s not my fault.” (Charles Sykes, *A Nation of Victims: The Decay of the American Character*, 1992)*

What point was Jesus making with this provocative question?

He was saying, *You are not completely helpless. You have some choices. You have opportunities to live a new life. It's not everyone else's fault. Your circumstances are not simply the result of fate. Your physical disability and social isolation do not deny you options.*

Note [John 5:7-8, 12-13, 9, 14](#)

...something even worse...

The eternal consequences of sin are more serious than any physical ailment.
(Morris)

Jesus' question ([John 5:6](#)) demonstrated that this man had some role to play in his healing...

His statement ([John 5:14](#)) showed that this man had some spiritual responsibility to take for his life (i.e., moral choice).

Jesus wanted to free this man from the slavery that being a victim brings...

Your story really does matter to *Jesus*:

- This disabled person discovered that the answers he thought he needed...weren't the answers he actually needed.
- What he needed was Jesus.
- And what we ultimately need is Jesus, too.

*Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!
Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital or in person).*



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back