

# ***“HE DWELT AMONG US”***

## **THE GOSPEL OF JOHN LESSON 6 Chapter 5**

***“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14:26***

As you start each lesson, you might think, “I need to do my homework.” Perhaps as you begin each day with time in prayer, you will see that the lesson could also be thought of as “*heart-work*.” Because God loves you and you are His child, He is very interested in what and how you learn. He assures us that He Himself will be our patient and loving instructor. Picture yourself as an empty vessel that He is about to fill with wisdom and knowledge of Himself. Stop and pray now as you begin day one.

### **DAY #1**

Read **John, chapter 5** all the way through. Now go back and record the important facts from **verses 1-18**. Remember, you may want to group several verses together. This first step of looking for the facts sometimes seems dry and routine. It might seem that because you just read through the whole chapter that the facts were all self evident. But when we make the effort to record them on paper, we see them more clearly and we also remember them. Until we know what the Bible is really saying (the facts), we will never know what it means and how it applies to our lives.

As you begin, give a title to this first section.....Example “Man Healed.”

Title:

**DAY #2 Read John 5:1-9**

We see that Jesus has returned to Jerusalem. Around the city of Jerusalem, there is a very high and thick wall. This wall was built for protection from enemy attack. There were numerous gates in the wall through which people could enter and exit the city. The scene of **chapter 5** is set near the gate that was frequently used for livestock known as the Sheep Gate.

- 1) As we read about the man with an infirmity, we see a situation that was hopeless by human standards. Using **verses 1** through **7**, list as many things as you can that would have made his chances for restored health highly unlikely.
  
- 2) When we have a problem, we often calculate all the obstacles and feel overwhelmed. We see no solution in sight. These obstacles can be a physical or emotional problem, a sin, a spiritual problem, or a difficult situation. List one or several things in your life that are like an infirmity that limits you.
  
- 3) From **verse 6**, we learn that he was one among many and yet Jesus saw him and knew his need. **Read Luke 12:6-7** and comment on the Lord's knowledge and concern for your needs.
  
- 4) Read **John 5:6-7**. Jesus asked the man "Do you want to be made well?" A simple *yes* or *no* would have been appropriate. Explain how the man responded. *Why* do you think he responded as he did?
  
- 5) Jesus gives an amazing instruction to this man..."Rise, take up your bed and walk." How cruel this would have been if He did not have the power to back up this command. He was asking a man who couldn't walk.... to walk. After 38 years, his muscles would have completely atrophied. But Jesus *did* have the power regardless of the condition. From **verse 9**, record the result and any insights you might have.
  
- 6) Sometimes we are similar to this man with an infirmity. We may be able to walk and appear to be fine on the outside. But we are often handicapped on the inside. We are limited by fear, worry, unforgiveness, or doubt. You may have been struggling with a certain issue for many years and you see no hope of breaking free. But be sure of this....Jesus sees and knows! And He has the power to heal...completely. Take that burden to Him right now, in prayer and ask for His healing. He says to you, "Do you want to be made well?" Don't give him excuses, just say "**Yes!**" Record the encouragement you receive from these verses:

**A. Psalm 146:5**

B. **Psalm 147:3**

C. **Hebrews 4:16**

D. **II Corinthians 10:3-4**

**DAY #3 Read John 5:10-18**

1) Notice the response of the Jews to the healing of this man who had been sick for 38 years.

A. What was the focus of their concern?

B. What should have been their reaction to this wonderful miracle? Explain your answer.

**\*\*\*BACKGROUND ON THE SABBATH\*\*\*** The Sabbath was the source of many conflicts between Jesus and the Jewish leaders. The Law required that work cease on the seventh day, Saturday. Additional laws which became very complicated and burdensome were added later by the religious authorities. These human traditions often obscured the divine intention of God's Law. Jesus stated "The Sabbath was made for man" (**Mark 2:27**) so that he could have a day of rest and a time for worship, rest and joy. The Pharisees were so concerned with the extreme that they questioned whether it was right to eat an egg that a chicken had laid on the Sabbath. This seems trivial to us, but they were very serious. The Jew's rigid tradition taught that if anyone carried anything in public, he deserved death by stoning.

2) Christians today can also become overly concerned with laws and details and lose sight of the things that are *most* important to God. We never want to lower our standards of godly living. But godly living isn't just abstaining from doing wrong, it also involves caring about others and doing good.

A. Read and comment on the instruction and correction given by Jesus concerning the balance in **Matthew 23:23-28**.

B. Also share any insights you receive from **I Corinthians 13:1-8**.

- 3) Read **Psalm 121:3-4** along with **John 5:17**. Record the thoughts and comfort you receive by knowing that the Lord of the universe is constantly “on the job.”

#### **DAY #4**

Read through **John 5:19-47**. Go back and record the important facts. If you have a red letter edition of the Bible, the verses in this section are written in red indicating that Jesus is the speaker. Pray as you record, that the Lord will give you “ears to hear.”

Title:

#### **DAY #5**

**\*\*Attention\*\*** The phrase “most assuredly” (New King James version) is used to begin the statement which Jesus makes in **verse 19**. Other translations use the words verily, verily or truly, truly. John quotes Jesus as using these phrases of emphasis 25 times in this gospel. Each time you see this, be attentive to the teaching that follows.

- 1) We learn in **John 5:19** that Jesus is not independent. In love, He was focused on doing the will of the Father. He chose this humble position. Read this verse again several times. Explain the lessons we can learn from Jesus’ example. Share how this speaks to you personally.

- 2) Read **John 5:21-23**. Only God has the right to grant life and the right to judge.
- A. Since Jesus has the power to do both, as stated in these verses, what does this tell us about the deity of Christ?
  
  - B. Explain, in your own words, what is being said in **verse 24**.
- 3) Many around us are spiritually dead, as we also were at one time. God gives the invitation “Incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live.” (**Isaiah 55:3**) Read **John 5:24, 25** again, and explain how the Spirit of God can use you to bring life giving words to others. Pray that He will give you a “Divine appointment” to be able to share.
- 4) Judgment day is something many people fear. Those outside of Christ should fear, it is a sobering event. We, as Christians, need to have a proper view of that day. To help us form an accurate picture, read the following verses and explain what you learn.
- A. **John 5:27** (Who will judge?)
  
  - B. **John 5:28, 29**
  
  - C. **Daniel 12:2**
  
  - D. **Revelation 20:11-15**
  
  - E. These verses speak of being judged by what we have done. What is the one all important thing that we need to do to assure that our name will be written in the book of life as stated in **John 5:24** and **Romans 10:9, 10**?

*“He who doesn’t fear God, should fear everything else.”*

**DAY #6**

- 1) Read **John 5:37-40**. Jesus was speaking to very religious people, in fact to religious leaders. Their minds were full of information *about* God.
  - A. From these verses (**37-40**) describe what they lacked.
  - B. These people were so close and yet so far away. Read **John 5:40** again and explain the one step that they were unwilling to make.
  - C. Why do you think so many do not make this last vital step? Take a moment to ponder this before you answer.
  - D. \*Personal\* Maybe this has been you, as described in verse **40**. You don't know the Savior *personally*. Jesus says simply, "Come to Me that you may have life." That is all it takes. He is just a prayer away. Will you stop and pray right now? You'll be eternally glad you did.
- 2) Look back over this week's lesson, and write out three or four applications that are meaningful to your life.

Then prayerfully take these lessons to the Lord for His help. "He is the author and finisher of our faith" (**Hebrews 12:2**). He is the one Who transforms. Don't try to change yourself without Him. But let's always seek to grow as we abide in Him and His precious and powerful Word.

***The conversion of a soul is the miracle of a moment;  
The growth of a saint is the work of a lifetime.***