

## Leaving Complacency Behind

John 5:1-17

1. Initial strategy is to wait (vs. 3).
  1. Be cautious of “adapting” to a sick world; being well adjusted to sick environment is not a good thing.
2. Jesus had one simple question (vs. 6).
  1. Do you want to get well?
3. No answer is offered, only an excuse (vs. 7).
  1. There is no hope. Only resignation and complacency.
  2. **Exodus 3**- Moses is full of excuses; 5 times he rejects God’s call with an excuse.
4. A new strategy is given (vs. 8).
  1. The man has to rise in his God-given strength. No more waiting; he had to take action.
  2. It is time to separate your purpose from your past.
5. Fighting complacency with intentionality.
  1. **Ephesians 2:10**- for we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which Christ prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
  2. **1 Peter 3:9b**- for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.
  3. **Exodus 4:11**- Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you ought to say.

### Small Group Questions:

- \* Open it- Reflect on the statement “You are the sum of the five people you spend the most time with”- what is your reaction to this phrase?
- \* From your life’s observations, how do hurting people find themselves keeping company with other hurting individuals? How can this be helpful and/or harmful? Read Proverbs 13:20. Have you ever found yourself needing to find new friends/associates? Please share this experience. Why do you imagine the lame man didn’t say he wanted to be healed? (vs. 6-7) Reflect for a moment on the things you long to do or feel God has called you to; think also on the reasons that stop you from moving forward into accomplishing these.

Share with the group. What did Jesus do before He told the man to take up his mat? (vs. 8) Does God call us to do something we are unprepared for? Please explain. Read Ephesians 2:10 together. How do we as believers live an intentional life, rather than a complacent one?

- \* Pray together over areas of life that each member desires to move forward in. If need be, repent of complacent behavior and invite the Holy Spirit to replace boldness where there are excuses or fear.