

Abundant Life Church
Pastor Steve Finton
June 4, 2017

Series: ***The Counselor***
Title: ***Do You Want to Get Well?***

When Jesus asked people questions it was to shed light on who they really are and what they truly believed.

John 5:1-2 (NIV)

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.

John 5:3-5 (NIV)

Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed and they waited for the moving of the waters. 4 From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters. The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease they had. 5 One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

John 5:6 (NIV)

When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

Do I have an ongoing situation, problem, or condition where I say I want God's help but I don't step into the water?

The longer a problem persists in your life, the more discouraged you become.

We are easily discouraged when a project or a dream does not get the results we expect.

We are discouraged if the results don't come quickly enough.

What area of need are you only giving partial effort with your faith?

DIScourage

The longer a problem persists in your life, the more excuses you make.

John 5:7 (NIV)

“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

Excuses aim to shift the focus from issues pertaining to our sense of self to issues that focus elsewhere.

The longer a problem persists in your life, the more you learn to compensate.

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Compensate: to make amends for

2 Corinthians 5:7

We walk by faith, not by sight.

James 1:3

The testing of your faith produces endurance.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that... what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

John 5:8 -9

Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.