

## WEEK ONE

# Hopeless in the House of Mercy

*John 5:2-9*

## SERMON SUMMARY

Bethesda means \_\_\_\_\_ . The man that Jesus spoke to had been there for \_\_\_\_\_ years. Jesus asked him, “Do you want to be made well?” Based upon the meaning of the Greek terms in this verse, Jesus’ question can also be stated as follows: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_?

The man responds with three excuses:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

These excuses revealed that the man had become Hopeless in the House of Mercy. Hopelessness is the loss of the \_\_\_\_\_ of a bright future, and it is the biggest problem in the church today.

Jesus responds to the man’s hopelessness not by arguing with him, but by giving him three powerful \_\_\_\_\_ : Rise, take up your bed, and walk!

***Rise:*** Allow the desires of your heart to awaken and shine!

***Take up your bed:*** Disconnect yourself from the comfortable place you’ve created to sustain you in your infirmity!

***Walk:*** Start moving past your healing and into your destiny!

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Now take a few moments to answer the following questions so that you can be prepared to participate in the discussion at your Community Group meeting this week.

1. Can you detect signs of hopelessness in any area of your life? If so, in which area?

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2. Do you resonate with any of the excuses of the man at Bethesda? If so, which one(s)?

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3. Are you aware of a “comfortable place” in your life that you need to pick up in order to move your life forward? If so, what is it?

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4. After hearing the message, did you make any decisions to work on changing anything in your life? If so, what and why?

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