



almsgiving...
(neighbour)

last week...

Lent...



John 5:1-15

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What is the main theme?

**Jesus and what he
gives...**

**Jesus and what he
gives...**

**(eternal life)
fullness of life...**

**for each in John it is
something a little
different...**

But centred around Jesus

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Mystery of Jesus
through the Gospel of John



By entering into the asylum Jesus is revealing the deep desire of God to bridge the gap that separates people, to bring together, in unity and harmony, people who are different: the foolish, the wise, the powerful and the powerless.

**Two encounters
with the sick man...**

**Two encounters
with the sick man...**

Jesus sees him

Jesus says

"Do you want to be healed?"

Jesus says

"Do you want to be healed?"

the sick man responds

"a man I do not have"

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But he has no one to help him.
His cry is a cry of loneliness.

Jesus is so moved by the despair and the powers of death in this man that he says:

"Rise up and take up your mat and walk!" v. 8

It is as if Jesus cannot contain himself;

he loves this man as he is, just as he loved the Samaritan woman.

He yearns to liberate him from all the powers of despair within him,
that he be fully alive.

In this story Jesus is not responding to a man's cry of faith, "Heal me!"
but to his cry of despair, the cry of humanity in despair!

Jesus is responding also to a pain within his own heart:

the pain of seeing the loneliness and despair of this paralyzed man.

Nobody wanted to see this man, but Jesus sees him.

Nobody loves him, but Jesus loves him.

Jesus says

"Do you want to be healed?"

the sick man responds

"I have no one"

**Two encounters
with the sick man...**

**Jesus sees him
Jesus finds him**

Jesus says

**"See you have become well, sin
no more, in order that nothing
worse happens to you"**

Jesus says

**"See you have become well, sin
no more, in order that nothing
worse happens to you"**

the healed man responds

By identifying his healer

**the response is
somewhat open
ended...**

Jesus enters in...

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When the weak and the strong come together in mutual friendship,
they bridge the gap and become bonded together
in a common humanity.

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the communion table...