

JOY in the JOURNEY VIII



“I can Make It!” - John 5:1-15

Sermon Idea: *If we can't experience the joy of being wrong, we can't experience the joy of being right.*

Intro: Have you ever followed an overloaded truck? Scarry! Our highways take a beating from heavily loaded semis, so weigh stations are necessary for safety's sake. Jesus wants us to cast off the things that weigh us down as illustrated in today's text....

Read and discuss John 5:1-15

1. What weights did the folks at the pool carry? Be thorough and in light all the verses, what particular weights did our specific man have?
2. Why do you think Jesus asked the man if he wanted to get well? Why might the man be unmotivated or discouraged about that prospect?
3. Jesus wasted no time and gave what command? What new burden or weight did this add to the man, in spite of being cured? Who was watching and what is their issue?
4. What burdens to we, and people all around us carry? Have you ever know some who seem to dwell, revel, or prefer their burdens over being cured? Do people today carry burdens put on them by others? What burdens have others put on you?
5. It's interesting that Jesus slipped away while Jewish leaders and the healed man talked. But as in the beginning it seems that Jesus saw and sought out this man to go from the surface to the heart of his need. Is there any clue, maybe in light of Jesus question in v. 6 as to what sin Jesus wants him rid of?
6. What are the varieties and the greatest needs of people today? How about each of us?
7. At the end, the man acknowledges who healed him...IT WAS JESUS. Do we need to do better at telling our journeys, our pilgrimage stories, to others and giving Jesus credit? How might the church provide for that? How can we do it in everyday life?
8. Let us pray for those with heavy weights and burdens...especially in our 2020 times.

From Hebrews: *“Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witness, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...” Heb. 12:1-2*