



Questions Jesus Asked

A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of October 12, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

John 5:1-15 Do You Want To Be Healed?

¹ After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³ In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸ Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” ¹¹ But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” ¹² They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’” ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴ Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

- Jesus arrives at Jerusalem for a Jewish feast. What is His first stop? (1-6). Why does He do this?
- Bethesda (2) means “House of Mercy”. What is mercy?
- The man had been an “invalid for thirty-eight years” (5). What do you think his life was like? His understanding of himself and God?
- Why does Jesus ask, “Do you want to be healed?” when the man’s need seems so obvious? (6)

- Do you relate to the man’s hesitant and complicated response to Jesus? In what way?
- Why might Jesus heal the man without the pool of Bethesda? (8-9)
- Why does John (the author of this Gospel) emphasize the Sabbath in his account? (9-15)
- What does Jesus mean when he charges the man to “sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you”? (14)
- What might motivate the man to tell the leaders that Jesus had healed him?
- Why do you think Jesus chose this man out of all the sick people by the pool?
- We all want life, health, and peace. And we all have sinful and broken ways we try to secure those things. What strategy do you tend to employ to get the things that God only gives by grace?
- What is one surprising way Jesus has freed you in your life?
- Pray together in light of this week’s passage.

Stories from the Church: Heather Oberle

Throughout this current sermon series on Questions Jesus Asked, brothers and sisters from our church will share the ways Jesus is faithfully at work in His church through many ministries at WEPC.

Three years ago, serving with children in Sunday School was not on my radar! Our family life was such that my four children were all in high school and beyond. I no longer thought much of what goes on downstairs, in this building, on a Sunday morning. Honestly, I sometimes

avoided it. Caring for the “little ones” in our midst did not register for me, until my friend, Susan Zebley, asked me to teach Kindergarten Sunday School with her. I forgot it was something I could even consider! Because she asked, I was up for giving it a go, together.

As we began our Sunday School adventure, it took some time for me to remember what it means to be six-years old. If you would like a reminder, here is a few things I learned:

- Sitting for long periods of time is not recommended
- Some kids have A LOT to say
- Don't give them too much water at snack time, it doesn't end well
- Being silly is welcome
- The messier the craft, the better (but not for parents)
- They love to be shepherded and cared for

I enjoyed it so much, that I signed on to continue for the next year. Like Susan invited me, I wanted to invite someone to join me. I realized teaching Sunday School was better with a friend! At the time, I hosted a group of young adult women for Bible study in my home. I thought it would be fun for one of them to join me, but I knew it could be challenging with their schedules to commit for the whole year, so I got creative! I asked if they would be up for sharing the role of “helper” in the Kindergarten class and they were excited about the opportunity. They signed up for the weeks they were available and we were ready for Sunday School!!

You might be wondering how it went? We colored and crafted with our Kindergarten friends, while talking about their weekend. We shared stories from the Bible and they asked thoughtful questions about God. We made messes and cleaned them up together. We played games even though six-year-olds are much nimbler than we are. In essence, we enjoyed being with our brothers and sisters in Christ!

For me personally, I saw my young adult friends grow in their heart for the church. Some of these women grew up at West End and it was not long ago they were in these very same Sunday School classes. So, it encouraged my heart to see them be blessed by these little ones. In Luke 18, the disciples are rebuking parents for bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus stops the disciples with these words: “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not

receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” In these words, I hear Jesus inviting me to learn from our children. When our children come to Jesus, I have the opportunity to learn something about God and His kingdom. I found there is no better way to do that than on a Sunday morning, downstairs, over pretzels, coloring, games, and the Bible.

To hear sermons and access past study guides visit www.wepc.org/resources/sermons-media-study-guide

Hear sermon audio for West End Presbyterian Church RVA on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#)

Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

