



Believing In Your Responsibility

Date: August 10, 2025

Big Question: What is your responsibility after you hear from God?

Side Question: Have you heard from God? What did He say or teach you?

Text: John 5:8–15

- 8 Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! **Pick up your mat and walk.**” 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, 10 and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.” 11 But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’ ” 12 So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?” 13 The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there. 14 Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. **Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.**” 15 The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well. ([John 5:8–15](#), NIV)

Question: Where does God’s responsibility end and yours begin?

Series Summary:

1. Believing Beyond the **Crowd** (Has your environment limited your faith?)
2. Believing In Your **Responsibility** (What are your responsibilities? John 5:8-15)
3. Believing Past Your **Critics** (How do you respond to criticism? John 5:8–18)
4. Believing Enough to **Never Return** (Have you returned to a bad habit? John 5:14–15)
5. Believing In The Power of Hunger (What are you hungry for in your life? Proverbs 16:26)

I. The Challenge: Take Responsibility for Your Healing (v.8–9)

- Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

II. The Correction: Jesus Adds Moral Responsibility to Physical Healing (v.14)



- “Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.”

Note: Greek Word for “Sinning” in John 5:14 (hamartanō)

- A strong negative adverb meaning “**no longer**”, “**stop now**”, or “**not anymore.**”
- It is used to prohibit ongoing behavior.
- This is the present active imperative form of the verb ἁμαρτάνω (hamartanō)
- “To sin,” “**to miss the mark,**” or “**to deviate** from God’s law.”
- Present tense here implies **continuous or habitual action.**
- The imperative mood makes **this a command, not a suggestion.**
- **Examples of Usage:** The same verb ἁμαρτάνω (hamartanō) appears in:
 - Romans 6:1–2 “–Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means!”
 - John 8:11 “–Go now and leave your life of sin.” (Women caught in adultery)

III. The Implication: The Man Had Issues (His physical challenged didn’t stop him)

1. His prior **lifestyle** may have contributed to his condition.
2. He is now **accountable** for what he does with his restored health.
3. Continuing in sin after receiving grace could lead to greater spiritual or physical **consequences.**

IV. The Parallel: Thessalonians Christians Who Refused to “Get Up and Walk”

Text: 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13 (NIV)

1. **Watch out for idle and disruptive people who cannot be taught:**



- 6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is **idle and disruptive** and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.

2. Watch out for people who have become a burden to you (Paul avoided that habit)

- 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, **8 nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it.** On the contrary, **we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you.**

3. Watch out for people who will not work

- 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but **in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate.** 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: **"The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."**

4. Watch out for busy bodies (encourage them to settle down and work)

- 11 We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. 12 Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and **earn the food they eat.** 13 And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good. 14 Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed. 15 Yet do not regard them as an enemy, but warn them as you would a fellow believer. ([2 Thessalonians 3:6–15](#), NIV)

Next Time: Believing Past Your **Critics** (How do you respond to criticism? John 5:10–13)