

True and Lasting Health, Wellness, and Rest (John 4:43-5:18)

Pastor Deric

(43) After the two days he departed for Galilee. (44) (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) (45) So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

(46) So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. (47) When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. (48) So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." (49) The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." (50) Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. (51) As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. (52) So he asked them the hour when he began to get better; and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." (53) The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. (54) This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee. [John 4:43-54 ESV]

(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. (4) (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. (16) And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. (17) But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." (18) This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. [John 5:1-18 ESV]

Practical Application

1. You can have true and lasting health, wellness, and rest in Jesus Christ.
2. Jesus lived His life on the Father's timetable and in accordance with His plan, and we should too.
3. Jesus deserves all honor, glory, and praise from us for everything.
4. Feasting, celebration, and joy are a blessing from God to be enjoyed by all His children.
5. No matter your position, power, wealth, influence, or popularity, there are some things that are beyond your control in this life. When you face these things it should be a reminder of your need for God, your need for Jesus.
6. We all experience sickness and disease in some way and to some degree, eventually resulting in death. Jesus is our only hope and healer.
7. These experiences can be hard and sometimes seemingly unbearable. Cry out to Jesus.
8. We need Jesus for physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual healing.
9. Jesus can solve, has solved, and will solve all our problems forever.
10. It is always right to ask Jesus to heal you and those you love.
11. His answer to His children is always best, whether it is yes now or later.
12. You can trust God and His goodness no matter what you go through.
13. Jesus can work naturally or supernaturally (miraculously) at any time He chooses.
14. It's never too late for Jesus.
15. Jesus has full authority over sickness, disease, and even death.
16. Jesus can heal instantly or through a process, now or in eternity.
17. Jesus' timing is always perfect.
18. Jesus can save you and your whole household. God loves pouring out His multi-generational blessing.
19. Jesus works signs and wonders whenever He wills.
20. There is no-one more merciful, compassionate, empathetic, and loving than Jesus.

21. There is no-one more powerful, with more authority, and with more dominion than Jesus.
22. Jesus initiates and orchestrates divine appointments all the time.
23. Jesus loves the disabled, hurting, wounded, and broken.
24. Jesus can heal both physical and spiritual blindness, physical and spiritual lameness, physical and spiritual paralyzation.
25. Jesus can heal lifelong chronic pain if He chooses.
26. Do you want to be healed? Do you want to be saved? Do you want to spend eternity with God? You can in Jesus.
27. Our limitations are not limitations for Jesus.
28. Jesus loves outcasts, loners, the hurting, abused, neglected, overlooked, passed over, and losers.
29. Get up and walk/live out God's plan for your life today no matter your past.
30. Walk into your God ordained destiny today with full confidence in Jesus.
31. Jesus is the Lord of the sabbath and He is our sabbath rest.
32. Don't let anyone, religious or irreligious, stop you for doing what God tells you to do.
33. Listen to Jesus' voice above all other voices.
34. Jesus can make you well.
35. Jesus wants you to live a life of holiness, purity, righteousness, freedom, and love.
36. All sickness and disease is a result of the Fall. Some is not a direct result of a person's sin. But some, like the man in this story, is a result of personal sin.
37. Tell others that Jesus is your healer, the healer, and can be their healer.
38. Tell others that Jesus can bring them true and lasting health, wellness, and rest.
39. Do not let persecution keep you from doing God's will and work.
40. God the Father is working in this world today, Jesus is working today, and we should be working as well.
41. Do God's will, work, plan, purpose, and mission each day.
42. Jesus is God. So, surrender to Him as your Lord and Savior today, and lead others to do the same.

Announcements

1. Our Wednesday night children's programming (Awana) and adult small group Bible study will start back up on January 18 (6:30-7:30pm). Pastor Deric is leading the adult study each week. He will be starting the book of Proverbs this Wednesday. It will center on growing in wisdom, knowledge, understanding, discernment, and practical life skills related to relationships, money, work, marriage, family, parenting, etc.
2. This month is a five Sunday month! That means we will have our 5th Sunday Fellowship pot-luck lunch immediately after service on Sunday, January 29, 2023. The meal will be in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish big enough to serve your family and one more! We look forward to a great meal as a church family! Invite friends and neighbors to come check us out and have a good meal as well. There will be no HMC Kids services on 1/29/2023. All kids are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for service to enjoy a message and fellowship with the church body.
3. We are beginning the much-needed process of renovating our Food Pantry. We will be painting the interior of the building and removing the old, stained carpet. We want to present a beautiful and peaceful environment to those that are being served through this ministry. If you would like to donate to this effort, please see Brad Vick or you can give specifically through our normal donation processes, just tag your extra gift as "Pantry Project" so the funds will be directed to the right area.
4. Our regular business meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2023. This meeting will be an important one, with much to discuss, including the budget proposal for 2023. Members, please plan to attend if you can.
5. The HMC Men's Ministry will meet again on February 12, 2023. It will be STEAK NIGHT! The meeting will be in the HMC Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:00 PM. Men, come hungry for food, fellowship, and JESUS! Invite other men to check out our new ministry specifically designed to reach men for the Glory of God.
6. Have you connected with HMC on social media? If not, please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages. While there you can see updates on things happening and upcoming events. You can also use the posts to share with others as an invite to attend our services or events.