



## **In the Flesh – John 5**

January 21 | Weekly Devotionals

### **Section 1: Introduction**

Today, we are starting in John 5. John 5 focuses on the healing at the Pool of Bethesda and Jesus' claim to be the Son of God. This chapter explores themes of authority, judgment, and the power of faith in Jesus' ministry.

**Read all of John 5.** As you read, note anything you learn from this text about the person of Jesus Christ in the space below.

### **Section 2: Walk slowly through your passage**

1. What do we actually know about the man lying near the pool of Bethesda? What can we understand about his attitude or state of mind? What did Jesus ask the man in verse 6? Did the man answer his question? How did the man respond?
2. How is this short interaction another example of what John 2:25 says, that Jesus knew the hearts and minds of men? In what ways is it similar and different from the encounters with Nicodemus, the woman at the well, and the official with the dying son?
3. In verses 16-30, the Jewish leaders aren't happy with Jesus. What are the reasons John gives in verse 18 for them wanting to kill Jesus?
4. How would you summarize Jesus' retort to them in the following verses? What is Jesus appealing to to give credence to what he is doing?

5. How do verses 31-47 bolster Jesus' case? What four witnesses does he say testify about him in these verses? How does that enhance Jesus' authority to heal and to "break" the Sabbath (5:18)?

### **Section 3: Reflection questions**

1. Reflect on a time when your faith in Jesus brought about healing or transformation in your life.
2. Consider the authority figures in your life. How does your understanding of Jesus as the ultimate authority impact your perspective on earthly authority or even *yourself* as your own authority?
3. In what areas of your life do you need to exercise faith in Jesus for healing and transformation?

### **Section 4: Pray the Scriptures**

Using John 5, write out a prayer in response to your time in God's Word today.

### **Section 5: Memorize Scripture**

Throughout this series, we want to be memorizing Scripture. Use the prompts below to help you get John 5 into your heart and mind.

1. Write down John 5:31-47 in your journal or on a notecard.
2. Memorize John 5:39-40. Use various techniques to memorize the passage, such as repeating it out loud, creating visual associations, or setting it to a melody or rhythm, take time to commit these verses to memory.
3. Regularly review the passage throughout the week. Recite it from memory and reflect on its meaning and significance.