

Wade Street Church – 25th January 2009
House Group Notes - Signposts in John. John 5: 1 – 15

In this gospel account, Jesus arrives on the Sabbath at a pool which has become known for its healing powers. It is believed by the crowd gathered there that the first person into the pool after the waters are stirred up will be healed.

Jesus asks an invalid of 38 years if he wants to be healed. Jesus then tells him to pick up his mat and to walk. He does this but then quickly gets into trouble with others for carrying a burden on the Sabbath.

Jesus reveals himself to the healed man and warns him to stop sinning. The man then went on to tell other Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

Questions to explore

Why do you think Jesus only healed one man at the pool?

What do you think about the reaction of the others (i.e. telling off an invalid of 38 years for carrying his mat)? Are we ever in danger of only seeing flaws, rather than the wonderful power of Christ at work?

Jesus asked the man if he wanted to be healed. Last week Jon Atkinson talked about healing as much more than a physical need but also a spiritual need. Are you prepared to let Jesus help you to be the person he wants you to be, or do you sometimes feel inhibited? What is it that inhibits you? What would help you to overcome your inhibitions?

Through these signs, Jesus revealed his majesty. How can we better communicate this majesty to our friends and colleagues who don't yet know Christ?