

# Connect Group Notes

Sermon: Encounters with Jesus: Helpless Sufferer

Reading: John 5: 1-15

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (AM)

- What have you read in the Bible recently that has encouraged or challenged you?
- What answers to prayer have you seen?
- Have you had any opportunities to talk to someone about the Lord?

Spend a few minutes sharing personal prayer requests and then pray together.

## Read John 5:1-15

1. What first brought you to church? It may not have been that feeling of 'losing hope' – but what was it for you? Briefly share testimonies of how you first connected with church.
2. In a world where people hope in all sorts of 'superstitions' and 'good luck' – how might we point to Jesus as our hope in every day conversations?
3. *"Do you want to get well?"* – Jesus asks the man. Do you think there's a danger that this man and perhaps we can dwell too much on our suffering that we lose sight of hope?
4. How do the stories in John 4 and John 6 help us see that Jesus is not just a 'help' but the source of life? How might we be in danger of treating Jesus as just a helper?
5. What's the significance of Jesus performing this miracle on the Sabbath? How does Jesus use this to teach (read on v.16-17)? What does the Sabbath point us to? (cf. Hebrews 4)
6. What do you think: was ingratitude part of this man's sin? Think practically: what would it look like for us to show gratitude to God and others?

## Prayer

- What encouragements or challenges have you found personally in this passage? Pray about them now.
- Pray for any you know in the church family who are struggling at the moment, that the wonderful future ahead of us will encourage them.
- Please pray for the appointments of Music Minister and Seniors Pastor.