

FEAR OF CHANGE: WHAT IF I CAN'T KEEP UP?

I.) AN UNCHANGED LIFE OF POVERTY AND AGONY NEAR THE GATE OF MERCY

- a. Meaning of Bethesda
- b. Condition of this paralytic

Life Application

II.) JESUS KNOWS EVERYONE'S LIFE CONDITION THAT NEEDS CHANGE

Question:

- a. Do you want to get well?
- b. Paralytic answer
- c. Lack of mercy in Jerusalem at the "house of mercy"
- d. God desires mercy and not sacrifice

Life Application

II.) JESUS IS INTERESTED IN LIFE CHANGE ABOVE RELIGIOUS DUTIES

- a. Value of people versus value of religious duties
- b. Importance of God's mercy

Life Application

**Life Group Homework/ Bible Study &
Food for Thought**
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

NIV – New International Version or where is the case we use ESV- English Standard Version

Quick Review

Looking back at your notes from this week teaching, was there anything new you learned or anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

John 5: 1-9

John 5:1 “ After this, a Jewish festival took place, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

John 5:2 By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda in Hebrew, which has five colonnades.

John 5:3 Within these lay a large number of the sick—blind, lame, and paralyzed [—waiting for the moving of the water,

John 5:4 because an angel would go down into the pool from time to time and stir up the water. Then the first one who got in after the water was stirred up recovered from whatever ailment he had].

John 5:5 One man was there who had been sick for 38 years.

John 5:6 When Jesus saw him lying there and knew he had already been there a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to get well?”

John 5:7 “Sir,” the sick man answered, “I don’t have a man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I’m coming, someone goes down ahead of me.”

John 5:8 “Get up,” Jesus told him, “pick up your mat and walk!”

John 5:9 Instantly the man got well, picked up his mat, and started to walk. Now that day was the Sabbath....”

Questions:

1. Find what fear of change looks like in your life?
2. Pastor David talked about importance of change. In what ways life pushes all of us to change?
3. Describe your comfort zone and resistance to change? What can you do to overcome this?
4. Pastor David talked about “house of mercy” and explain in what ways we should become as church a house of mercy?
5. How does our religious duties shadow “mercy” we should have been showing towards people around us?
6. How can we change our belief of value of people versus value of religious practices?



LIFE GROUPS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Month of
							Notes

Commitment to Personal Goals:

1. Scripture Reading (specific and attainable)
2. Scripture Memorization (verse/ passage)
3. Relationships/ Evangelism
4. Personal

Group Goals

- ↑ LOOK UP towards Christ
 - Grow in love for Christ and confidence in Him
- ↓ LOOK DOWN into the God's Word
 - Learn God's word and how to study it
 - Apply God's word to my life in specific ways
- ➡ LOOK IN at my own life
 - Identify and fight against sin in my life
 - Cultivate godly character and spiritual maturity
 - Improve my devotional life or reading and prayer
- ↔ LOOK OUT towards others
 - Serve other church members purposefully
 - Nurture relationships for accountability and prayer
 - Strengthen the relationships within my home
 - Develop loving friendships with outsiders for the purpose of evangelism

Responsibilities for Group Members

1. Be committed to GCC and its mission, leadership and goals of LG
2. Attend Sunday services each week, or let someone in the group know why I miss
3. Prioritize group meetings by arriving on time each week
4. Complete any assignments for the group and come prepared to participate
5. Participate in meetings without disrupting or monopolizing the time and attention of others
6. Cultivate trust within the group and be honest, transparent and teachable
7. Show love, concern and hospitality to visitors