

Digging Deeper into John 5:1-9a, 14-15

Chat

- Describe a recent situation where you've needed help. Who did you ask? Where did you go for help?



Study

Read John 5:1-9a, 14-15

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+5&version=NIV>

The incident described in this passage leads into a debate with the Jewish leaders about the Sabbath and where Jesus' authority comes from (v.10-47) but this week, we're focusing in on the man's need for help and where he thought that help would come from.

- What does v.1 remind us about Jesus and his own practice of faith?
- *We're not sure exactly what the Aramaic name of the pool was but you can visit a pool in Jerusalem's Old City which has five porches (near the Church of St Anne's).*
- Your Bible will probably miss out v.4 in the main text and include it as a footnote. The early manuscripts of John's Gospel don't contain this verse but some later ones do. Why do you think later copyrighters decided to add it in?
- What was the man's problem (v.5)?
- What help did he think he needed (v.7)?
- What made Jesus approach this particular man (v.6)?
- Why do you think Jesus asked him if he wanted to be well?
- Imagine you were this man. What would your response have been when Jesus tells you to get up (v.8)?
- When did the man find out who had made him well (v.14-15)?
- What does Jesus say in v.14 and why do you think he said it?

Think

When you need help who do you go to first?

Do you sometimes forget to talk to Jesus about it?

Perhaps you might like to start each day by reading Prov.3:5-6.

Tell God that you trust him to guide and help you as you follow him throughout the day.



Here are two very different styles of song about God's help. The first is a lively encouragement that God will 'roll up his sleeves' and step in to help. The second is a more poignant cry to God for help when you have no words.

- **Help is on the way**, TobyMac: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVgetlvEIAS>
- **Heaven, help me**, Zach Williams: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CH5QaYzinI>