



## Seven Signs

*Week 3: Pools and Rules | Teacher: Libin Abraham  
Sermon Questions for 4.21.2024*

### Opener

What is a rule you were taught growing up that you've realized isn't an essential rule to follow?

### Read

John 5:1-25; Deuteronomy 2:14

### Main Points

1. Everyone is building our lives on something: maybe it's a career, physical abilities, marriage or family, or a myriad of other possibilities. We all have faith, the question is in what or in whom have we placed our faith.
2. Bethesda literally means House of Mercy.
3. Jesus told the man to pick up his mat, but he didn't need the mat anymore. The mat tells the story - it tells others who he used to be and what Jesus has done.
4. A religious spirit cares more about the mat than the miracle.
5. Your mat matters - your scars and wounds tell a story, not just what has happened to you but of what Jesus did for you. He uses your past failures to highlight his grace.
6. This event, this sign, is the one that turned the religious leaders against Jesus. The point of this sign is to reveal that Jesus is the Son of God.
7. Physical healing is temporary, spiritual healing is eternal.
8. The physical healing we see in some are a sign for the spiritual healing that is available for all.

### Engage with God in a Group

- How have you tried to find life by following rules?
- What do you think would be the impact on your relationships with others if you lived free from rules where you've tried to find life and lived trusting in Jesus as your life?
- What does a *House of Mercy* look like to you?
- Would others describe you as a person who enjoys and extends mercy?
- Who is in your life right now that you know needs to experience Jesus' love and mercy?

### Bottom Line

Life is not found by man-made pools or man-made rules, but by trusting in Jesus, the Son of God.