

Sermon Notes – Sunday 1st March

‘Miracles’ - Jesus heals the man at the Pool of Bethesda

John’s gospel is about “The light shining in the darkness.” In what ways could the lame man’s situation be seen as darkness?

- How much faith does the lame man demonstrate? Who takes the initiative in this story?
- What does this story tell us about what Jesus came to do?
- In response to his opponents, Jesus claimed “My Father is working until now, and I am working.” What was it about this claim that scandalized his hearers? Was it that they misunderstood Jesus or that they rightly understood him but rejected what he was claiming? (See 1:18, 5:19-20, 8:58 14:10-11)
- [Optional] Reread the opening verses of John (1:1-18). How do these verses help us to deepen our understanding of the healing of the lame man?
- Those who have received abundant life from Jesus are incorporated into his mission (17:18; 20:21) and sent out by him.
 - What dark situations around us are we called to go and stand in? And what would it look like for the light to be shining in the darkness, for Jesus to be pouring his abundant life into those situations?

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