

Date: October 13, 2019  
Sermon Series: Believe  
Sermon Title: Grace for the Undeserving  
Passage: John 5:1-16  
By Pastor Eric Mann

### **John 20:30-31(CSB)**

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may **believe** that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### **John 5:1-16 (CSB)**

<sup>1</sup> After this, a Jewish festival took place, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda in Aramaic, which has five colonnades. <sup>3</sup> Within these lay a large number of the disabled—blind, lame, and paralyzed.

<sup>5</sup> One man was there who had been disabled for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and realized he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to get well?”

<sup>7</sup> “Sir,” the disabled man answered, “I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I’m coming, someone goes down ahead of me.”

<sup>8</sup> “Get up,” Jesus told him, “pick up your mat and walk.”<sup>9</sup> Instantly the man got well, picked up his mat, and started to walk.

Now that day was the Sabbath, <sup>10</sup> and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “This is the Sabbath. The law prohibits you from picking up your mat.”

<sup>11</sup> He replied, “The man who made me well told me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

<sup>12</sup> “Who is this man who told you, ‘Pick up your mat and walk’?” they asked. <sup>13</sup> But the man who was healed did not know who it was, because Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

<sup>14</sup> After this, Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well. Do not sin anymore, so that something worse doesn’t happen to you.” <sup>15</sup> The man went and reported to the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, the Jews began persecuting Jesus because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.

**God is always the one who initiates a relationship with us.**

### **John 6:44 (CSB)**

<sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me **draws him**, and I will raise him up on the last day.

### **2 Timothy 1:9 (CSB)**

<sup>9</sup> He has saved us and **called us** with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.

### **1 Peter 2:9 (CSB)**

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of **the one who called you** out of darkness into his marvelous light.

### **2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 (CSB)**

<sup>13</sup> But we ought to thank God always for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God has chosen you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> **He called you** to this through our gospel, so that you might obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

True faith in Jesus results in a transformed life. It is more than just knowledge or intellectual agreement; it affects a believer's entire life.

Any time God heals a person's body, He does it with the purpose of drawing people to faith in Jesus so that their spirits can be healed too.

### **Mark 8:36 (NIV)**

<sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

"Religious" people often care more about following rules than about showing compassion. Followers of Jesus, on the other hand, lead with compassion that points people to Jesus.

### **Acts 3:3-8 (CSB)**

<sup>3</sup> When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple, he asked for money. <sup>4</sup> Peter, along with John, looked straight at him and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup> So he turned to them, expecting to get something from them. <sup>6</sup> But Peter said, "I don't have silver or gold, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" <sup>7</sup> Then, taking him by the right hand he raised him up, and at once his feet and ankles became strong. <sup>8</sup> So he jumped up and started to walk, and he entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

### **Acts 3:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

God desires that His activity in our lives result in a transformed heart.

Be careful that religion does not keep you from entering a relationship with the living God.