



DOWN  
TO  
EARTH

JOHN 1-6

# Today's Worship Service

---

## PRAISE

*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)*

Call To Worship

Pastor Mike Matheson

["Hosanna"](#)

Fraser

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RENEWAL

*As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)*

Prayer of Lament

Pastor Mike Matheson

["Great is Thy Faithfulness"](#)

Chisholm, Runyon

["How Deep The Father's Love For Us"](#)

Townend

Offering

## PROCLAMATION

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)*

Reading of the Word

John 5:1-18

*Reader: This is God's Word for us today.*

*All: Thanks be to God.*

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

## RESPONSE

*Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)*

["Be Thou My Vision"](#)

Byrne, Hull

Benediction

Pastor Mike Matheson

# Sermon Review Discussion Questions

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

---

When things aren't going how we want, we want to point a finger at God, putting him on trial. When we see pain, suffering, and hardship in the world, people often choose to 1) blame God, 2) deny God exists, or 3) ignore God entirely. In John 5, Jesus dispels these responses. We can't blame God because the "Father is working" in the world (v. 17). Nor can we deny God exists, for his work is restoring life to this world, just as the lame man experienced. Finally, we cannot ignore God... like the lame man did initially. Jesus made sure this man didn't ignore what Jesus had done in his life. Let us also not miss his work.

## Discussion Questions

1. How has your faith impacted your response to the COVID-19 situation? What are ways the situation has grown and/or challenged your faith? How are you and your family seeking to make the most of the situation both practically and spiritually?
2. Why is it fitting that Jesus went to a place where many broken people gathered? How does this reflect his ministry in the world as a whole? What does this encounter with the invalid teach us about the person of Jesus? How does this interaction compare with previous interactions (Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the official)?
3. What do the lame man's responses to Jesus (v. 7) and the religious leaders (v. 11) reveal about his attitude? What is his true need (beyond physical healing)? How do your circumstances sometimes cloud your ability to see God at work in your life? What steps can we take to keep our need for Jesus always in view?
4. What was wrong with the man taking up his bed on the Sabbath? What was God's goal for the Sabbath? How did the Sabbath laws actually keep this goal from being achieved? What are ways our traditions might make us lose sight of God and his work around us?
5. What are examples of God's ongoing work in this world? What is at stake if/when we deny or ignore God's working around us? How can we look to Jesus and his finished work to keep from blaming him for the world's problems?

# In-Sermon Focus Questions

These questions are designed to keep you engaged during the sermon.

---

1. What tough questions do people tend to/need to ask in times like this?
2. What does the setting of this story show us? ([John 5:1-3](#))
3. What stands out about Jesus healing this man? ([John 5:5-9a](#))
4. What could Jesus possibly mean by something worse happening to this man? ([John 5:9b-15](#))
5. Why does Jesus mention his Father working as a defense in this story? ([John 5:16-18](#))

# Sermon Notes

---

**Preacher:** Pastor Mike Matheson

**Sermon:** Seeing Isn't Always Believing

**Scripture:** [John 5:1-18](#)

**Date:** April 5, 2020

## Missionary Partners

Get to know our partners around the world, stay in touch, and consider how God could use your gifts and resources for the sake of making disciples of all nations. Learn more about Ministry Partners & Local Partnerships at [graceinracine.com/mission](http://graceinracine.com/mission).

### [Erica Kienzle](#)

Serving with TEAM Mission Agency in La Paz, Mexico

Erica Kienzle is serving with Rancho El Camino in La Paz, Mexico, with TEAM Mission agency. Erica has been partnered with Grace Church for two years. She grew up in a missionary family that has been partnered with Grace for 35 years. Rancho El Camino partners with the



local church in La Paz to use camp ministry and other outreach initiatives like horses, Kids Club, and more to reach kids, teens, and families for Christ. Erica & the Rancho El Camino team go into the local community to build relationships, share the love of Christ, and disciple them as they become believers. Erica also holds a weekly Bible study discipleship group for young girls in the community.

#### *Pray for Erica:*

- That the camp will be used to attract many families to come and hear the gospel of Jesus.
- Pray that God would overwhelm the hearts of every child and intern and staff these next few weeks, that people would come to know him, and that his name would be glorified here in this place.
- For the young girls Erica is discipling to grow in their faith and learn to share Jesus with others.
- For health & energy for Erica & the rest of the team as they work in 100+ degree heat.

#### *For more information on this topic look into:*

*John: A 12-Week Study.* (Knowing the Bible series) by Justin Buzzard

*John 1-12 For You* (God's Word for You) by Josh Moody

*ESV Scripture Journal*

## ***How are you doing?***

We miss seeing everyone during the week and especially on Sundays! If you have a prayer need, please email us at [info@graceinracine.com](mailto:info@graceinracine.com). We'd love to be praying for you during this crazy time. You can also submit a prayer request at [prayer@graceinracine.com](mailto:prayer@graceinracine.com). Please visit [graceinracine.com](http://graceinracine.com) if you need help during this time or are able to assist others.

Also, if you have a personal need that we can help you with, please contact the church office and let us know! 262.632.2111 or [info@graceinracine.com](mailto:info@graceinracine.com).

We recognize that some may be facing severe economic hardship, we'd love to have a conversation about how we might be able to help in some way as well. The benevolence ministry is available only to regular attenders and members. Contact Lynn Newlun at [lnewlun@graceinracine.com](mailto:lnewlun@graceinracine.com) or 977.6532.

---

## ***Giving on Realm***

1. Log into your Realm account  
(*don't have a Realm account? Visit [graceinracine.com/realm](http://graceinracine.com/realm) to set one up*)
  2. On the left menu, select "Community"
  3. Select "Giving"
  4. On the "Giving" page, select the blue box with +Give.
  5. From this point, you indicate the amount, designated fund, & frequency.
  6. Select "Continue" and then will be prompted to enter bank information.
- 

## ***New Guide Book & Directory***

Watch your mailbox for our new Grace Church Guide Book & Directory that should be arriving in the coming week. The advertisers helped provide this service at no cost to our congregation. We encourage you to think of them in the future as your needs arise. If you are interested in advertising next year, contact [amandavogt@guidebookpublishing.com](mailto:amandavogt@guidebookpublishing.com) for more information.

If you do not receive a directory in the coming week or if you find your information to need updating, please contact Janine Carls at [jcarls@graceinracine.com](mailto:jcarls@graceinracine.com) or 632-2111.

---

***Last Week:*** Livestream Attendance: 325 households

---

***Giving:*** Last Week: \$21,187      YTD: \$369,486      +/- Budget: -\$24,921