

## LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## *Seven Signs of John Series*

These questions are for the **October 1, 2023** message, "A Poolside Healing." Please read the sermon passage (John 5:1-24) together out loud.

### Passage Outline

AS JESUS PUBLICLY AND UNIVERSALLY REVEALS HIS IDENTITY, WE SEE . . .

1. His miraculous healing. (1-15)
  - a. Jesus miraculously heals a man who has been lame for 38 years.
    - i. He does this at the pool of Bethesda, just outside the temple.
    - ii. He does this on the Sabbath day.
  - b. He is intentionally revealing his authority over the Sabbath and the religious leaders.
  - c. He is clearly identifying himself as the Son of God, revealing that he is equal with God.
2. His opponent's escalating rejection. (16-18)
  - a. The Jews were "persecuting" Jesus for Sabbath-breaking. (16)
  - b. But then planned to put him to death because of what they said was "blasphemy."
  - c. As Jesus' identity and authority become clear, people will either receive or reject.
3. His preeminent authority. (19-29)
  - a. Jesus is completely equal with God the Father.
    - i. The Son does everything the Father does. (19)
    - ii. The Father's loves the Son and they are completely loyal to one another. (20)
    - iii. Both Father and Son give life to whom they will. (21)
    - iv. The Father has completely delegated all judgment to the Son.
  - b. "Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life." (24)
4. The irrefutable witnesses. (30-47)
  - a. John the Baptist witnesses that Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away sin. (30-35)
  - b. Jesus' miracles are clear signs that he is the Son of God, the Son of Man. (36)
  - c. The OT prophecies and promises have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. (37-47)

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Jesus intentionally heals this man on the Sabbath day to show his authority over sickness and every religious tradition. How does this healing encourage your faith in Jesus?
2. Based on #2, above: When Jesus is clearly identified, people will either love him or hate him, because he commands that people everywhere submit to him alone. Our job is to accurately identify Jesus' identity: he is equal with God, he is the Son of God, he is the one and only Messiah. How does "escalating rejection" of Jesus impact our responsibility to be his witnesses?
3. Based on #3, above: Read and discuss verse 24.
4. Based on #4, above: Jesus reveals his identity by appealing to his Father's words (37), including clear prophecies and promises that Jesus fulfilled. How does a growing understanding of the Old Testament fuel your confidence, enjoyment and astonishment that God sent Jesus to call dead people to life? (compare v. 8 and v. 21)