
Sermon Outline — Congregation Notes

February 22, 2026

Series: I Believe in Miracles, Part 3

Title: *Pick It Up*

Text: John 5:1–11 (NLT)

Theme: Continuing to believe God for miracles and responding in faith when Jesus calls us to move.

1. A Place Full of Need

John 5:2–3

- The Pool of Bethesda was crowded with people who were blind, lame, and paralyzed.
- It was a place filled with suffering, disappointment, and long delays.
- Many were waiting for a miracle, but waiting had replaced active faith.

Key Truth:

It is possible to be around spiritual activity and still slowly stop believing God for change.

2. Jesus Asks a Heart-Revealing Question

John 5:5–6

- Jesus notices one man who had been sick for thirty-eight years.
- His question, “Would you like to get well?” was not about ability, but desire.
- Long seasons of struggle can cause people to settle for survival instead of hope.

Key Truth:

Before Jesus changes our situation, He often challenges our expectations.

3. Excuses Explain the Past, but Faith Responds to Jesus

John 5:7

- The man responds with reasons, limitations, and comparisons to others.
- Jesus does not argue with his excuses or correct his theology.
- Jesus moves directly to action.

Key Truth:

Our history may explain where we are, but it does not limit what God can do now.

4. Obedience Activates the Miracle

John 5:8–9

- Jesus commands the man to stand up, pick up his mat, and walk.
- The mat represented his condition, his identity, and his reason for staying put.
- Healing came when the man obeyed, not before.

Key Truth:

Faith is not only believing in Jesus—it is responding to His voice.

5. Walking in Your Miracle May Bring Resistance

John 5:10–11

- The religious leaders focused on rules instead of rejoicing over restoration.
- The healed man stood confidently in obedience to the One who healed him.

Key Truth:

Do not allow other people’s opinions to silence what God has done in your life.
