

This Week's Lesson

The Pool Healing

John 5:1-9

With summer just around the corner, we are thinking about picnics and swimming pools. In today's Gospel we read about a special pool. It's not like the pools we swim in. It's a natural pool. It's called Bethesda, which means "House of Mercy."

As we read the scripture we are told how people believed when the water would swirl, whoever went into the pool first would be healed.

There was an old man on a mat near the pool, but he couldn't walk. So when the pool would start swirling he could never get there first. One day Jesus came by and the man told Him about his dilemma. Even though the man didn't know it was Jesus, he picked up his mat and walked, just as Jesus commanded him to do.

We are sometimes like these people. We put our hopes in things to help us out. Like lucky charms or lucky numbers. We have superstitions that if we do things in a certain order it will help us. Jesus is the only one we can put our trust in.

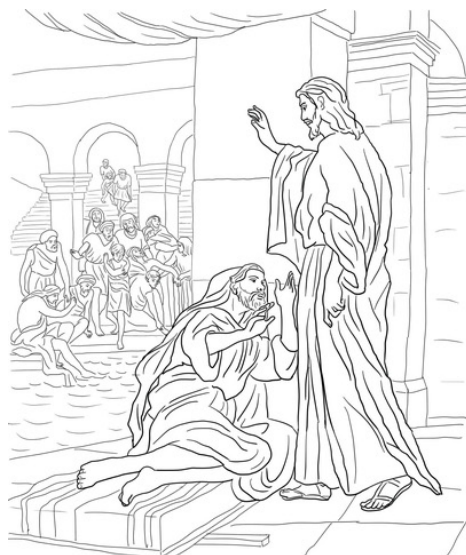
Even though we still have pain and difficulties, we need to trust that God knows what He's doing. We can't just sit around and hope to jump in the pool someday. We need to be ready to do something different, and to follow some strange instructions.

We have to know that only God and Jesus can bring us peace. Not some superstitions or lucky charms. Our healing might look different than we expect it to be, but we trust that God knows what He is doing. Are you ready? Are you willing? Then jump in and follow Him!

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for Your healing presence. Help us to recognize that truth. Thank you for Your love and for Your son, Jesus. This we pray in Your name. Amen



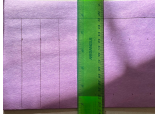
This Week's Lesson The Pool Healing Craft Directions

John 5:1-9

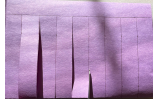
Materials:

2 different colors of construction paper ruler pencil scissors glue printed templates

Directions:



With your base piece of paper vertical (long edge on the side) fold the top down to the bottom. This should meet the two short ends of the paper together. With the fold at the top, place your ruler (or flat edge) approximately an inch from the top of your paper. Draw a line along the flat edge. Next, with your paper in the same position (folded end at top) you are going to draw lines approximately 1 inch from the top to the bottom of the folded paper.



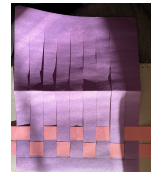
With the paper in the same position, you will cut up each of the lines of the paper till you get to the cross line and stop. Remember to not cut all the way through the paper.



Once you are done, it should look like an accordion. Keep it open when weaving.



After you place the base paper to the side, grab your second piece of paper. This is your weaving paper. Draw and cut as with the base paper, except cut strips all the way through. Open strips.



Next, starting at the bottom of the paper weave a paper strip over and under through your base paper. The next paper strip will then weave the opposite of the first. The under and then over creates the weaving process.



Lastly, continue up the base paper alternating, which will lead you to the top.



Once you have your weaving complete, you can either cut off the ends of the weave or fold them over and tape them down.



Lastly, print templates on paper, cut and glue onto mat however you'd like.



See templates on other sheet.

Templates for This Week's Lesson
The Pool Healing
John 5:1-9

**Pick Up Your
Mat and Walk!**

John 5:1-9

