

INFIRMITIES AND HOW TO HANDLE THEM

Scripture:

John 5:1-14 (Note 6, 14)

John 5:6 NKJV When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been <in that condition> a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

John 5:14 NKJV Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."

Introduction

Infirmitie here means unwellness or a lack of wholeness in body, mind, emotion or spirit. It is an illness in any of these areas.

Jesus desires us to be made whole or complete. He wants us to be well. For this man, wholeness or wellness meant forsaking a life of sin.

I. The primary question Jesus asked

John 5:5 Amp There was a certain man there who had suffered with a deep-seated and lingering disorder for thirty eight years.

John 5:6 NKJV When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been <in that condition> a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" (Amplified "Are you really in earnest about getting well")

A. Jesus wanted to know the depth of this man's motivation to get well

1. Some use infirmities for sympathy
2. Some use infirmities for control

B. The man did not respond directly to Jesus question

John 5:7 NKJV The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

1. No one will help me get well
2. Someone else always receives the healing before me

C. Jesus commands an act of faith

John 5:8 NKJV Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."

II. Jesus' instructions for retaining the healing

John 8:11 NIV "No one sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

John 5:14 NKJV Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."

A. The issue of generational sin

Exodus 34:7 NKJV "keeping mercy for thousands,

forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing <the guilty>, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

1. Life patterns acquired from early learning
2. Imprinting
- B. The issue of victimization
 1. Abuse
 2. Molestation
- C. The issue of a sinful lifestyle

III. Responding to Jesus command

Romans 8:26 NKJV Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

- A. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to wellness and wholeness
 1. Are there generational issues in which you participate?
 2. Are there victimization issues in which you participate?
 3. Is there active sin in your life which prevents your healing?
- B. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you change your life patterns

Conclusion

1. Are there sin issues that are preventing you from being well?
2. Are you participating in a lifestyle that prevents your healing?
3. THE BIG QUESTION: "Are you really in earnest about getting well?"