* **What was something you really wanted as a kid?**

As we continue our journey with Jesus through the Gospel of John, we see Jesus interact with a man who has been paralyzed for 38 years. After decades of living with his condition, Jesus asks him a seemingly obvious question.

*Read John 5:1-6*

* **On the surface Jesus’ question seems to have an obvious answer. Why did He ask if the paralyzed man wanted to be healed?**
* **Have you ever been impatient with God’s timing?**

*Read John 5:7-17 & Matthew 12:1-8*

Jewish people were commanded not to perform any work on the sabbath, in remembrance of God’s resting on the last day of creation. Yet, Jesus instructs the man to “take up your mat, and walk.” This causes the religious leaders to become upset because carrying your mat was considered “work” by them, and Jesus was the one instructing him to do so.

* **Is Jesus a sabbath breaker?**
* **Why did the Jewish leaders wish to kill Jesus?**

It becomes clear that the religious leaders have lost sight of the original reason God gave the command. They have begun to care about their religious institution and rules more than the people God wanted to protect and grow. Jesus’ interaction with the man reminds us that Jesus cared more about people than their tradition, and he wanted the man to have his life changed.

* **In what ways do we make following Jesus more complicated than it is?**
* **What does Jesus mean when He warns the man that something “worse may happen to you” if he continued to sin?**
* **What does it look like to stop sinning, as Jesus instructed the man to do?**

To hear a conversation discussing these questions listen to our podcast

‘The Brazos Pointe Living Room’