

# DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?

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John 5:1-18: (p. 1653)

March 31, 2019

*When Jesus saw him lying there  
and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time,  
he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"*  
John 5:6

## **From Jesus' perspective: a compassion check**

*When Jesus saw him lying there . . . .* John 5:6

## **The man's perspective: a response check**

*"Sir," the man said, "I have not one to help me . . . ."* John 5:7

## **The Pharisees' perspective: a joy check**

*So because Jesus was doing things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him.* John 5:16

## **Resources for further study of John 5**

The Belgic Confession, Articles 18-21, at <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/confessions/belgic-confession>. Doug's favorite definition of faith comes from the Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 7, at <https://www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/confessions/heidelberg-catechism>

"Bunyan's Last Sermon" at [https://biblehub.com/library/bunyan/the\\_works\\_of\\_john\\_bunyan\\_volumes\\_13/mr\\_bunyan\\_last\\_sermon\\_.htm](https://biblehub.com/library/bunyan/the_works_of_john_bunyan_volumes_13/mr_bunyan_last_sermon_.htm)

James Montgomery Boice's essays at <https://www.monergism.com/these-things-are-written-so-you-may-believe>

Deffinbaugh's study of John's gospel at <https://bible.org/series/you-might-believe-study-gospel-john>

Martin Lloyd-Jones' studies at <https://www.monergism.com/life-god-soul-man-john-410-13%E2%80%9314>

Spurgeon's sermons on John 4:14 "Life's Ever-Springing Well" at <http://www.spurgeongems.org/vols13-15/chs864.pdf>

Earl Palmer's *The Intimate Gospel* (Word, 1987) and Tenny's *John: The Gospel of Belief* (Eerdmans, 1948).

# Service of Communion

## The Invitation

Welcome to the feast of the Lord. All who are baptized and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to join in this meal.

At the Lord's Supper we look back, remembering the whole story of our salvation; we look around, seeing that we are together members of the body of Christ; we look forward to the great banquet in God's coming kingdom; and we look up to our ascended Lord, who promises to feed us with his body and blood by the Holy Spirit.

## Note on OWBTG

36. Our new life in Christ is celebrated and nourished in the fellowship of congregations,  
where we praise God's name,  
hear the Word proclaimed,  
learn God's ways,  
confess our sins,  
offer our prayers and gifts,  
and celebrate the sacraments.

## The Thanksgiving

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**People:** It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

**Leader:** With joy we praise you, gracious Father, for you have created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord by whose grace we may triumph over temptation, be more fervent in prayer, and be more generous in love. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

**People:** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

**Leader:** We thank you, our Lord, for the hope this meal gives us, that Jesus will return as triumphant King, that the dead will be raised, and that all people will stand before his judgment. We face that day without fear, for you, our Judge, are our Savior. May our daily lives of service aim for the moment when the Son will present his people to the Father and God will be shown to be true, holy, and gracious.

**People:** You, our God, will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish, everything will be made new, and every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God! Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

## Confession and Assurance

39. The church is a gathering of forgiven sinners called to be holy.

Saved by the patient grace of God,  
we deal patiently with others  
and together confess our need for grace and forgiveness.

Restored in Christ's presence, shaped by his life,  
this new community lives out the ongoing story of God's reconciling love,  
announces the new creation,  
and works for a world of justice and peace.

→ 1 John 1:8-9

## The Words of Institution

**Leader:** We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until he comes again. At his last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me." For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

**People:** Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

**Leader:** Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

*\*Communion Hymn*

## The Prayer of Consecration

**Leader:** Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

**All:** "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts,

as we have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from the evil one.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen."

## The Communion

### The Bread (*OWBTG*)

37. God meets us in the sacraments, communicating grace to us by means of water, bread, and wine.

38. In the Lord's Supper, Christ offers his own crucified body and shed blood to his people,  
assuring them a share in his death and resurrection.

By the Holy Spirit, he feeds us with his resurrection life  
and binds us to each other as we share one loaf and cup.

We receive this food gladly,  
believing, as we eat, that Jesus is our life-giving food and drink and that he will come again  
to call us to the wedding feast of the Lamb.

→ 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, "And is not the bread that we break . . . ."

### The Cup

57. On that day we will see our Savior face to face,  
sacrificed Lamb and triumphant King, just and gracious.

He will set all things right, judge evil, and condemn the wicked.

We face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior, whose shed blood declares us righteous.

We live confidently,  
anticipating his coming,  
offering him our daily lives—our acts of kindness, our loyalty, and our love—  
knowing that he will weave even our sins and sorrows into his sovereign purpose.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

→ Hebrews 10:19-22a, "Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence . . . ."

## Thanksgiving

### \* *Psalm 103*

\***All:** Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the sacrament of his body and blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart.

Through Christ, our Lord, Amen.

### \* *Communion Hymn*

*Stuart Townend and Keith Getty*

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise  
To respond, - and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth.  
As we share in His suffering  
We proclaim Christ will come again!  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King

## **The Sacraments in *Our World Belongs to God*, Articles 36-39**

36. Our new life in Christ is celebrated and nourished in the fellowship of congregations,  
where we praise God's name,  
hear the Word proclaimed,  
learn God's ways,  
confess our sins,  
offer our prayers and gifts,  
and celebrate the sacraments.

*For the church's worship, see Matthew 6:5-15; 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47; Romans 10; and 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.*

37. God meets us in the sacraments,  
communicating grace to us by means of water, bread, and wine.  
In baptism,  
whether of the newly born or newly converted,  
God reminds and assures us of  
our union with Christ in covenant love,  
the washing away of our sin,  
and the gift of the Holy Spirit—expecting our love and trust in return.

*Matthew 3:13-17, with Matthew 28:19, establishes baptism as a gospel sacrament. That baptism is for children as well as adults and is accompanied by the gift of the Spirit is indicated in Acts 2:38-39. Titus 3:5 calls baptism a washing away of sins. Romans 6:1-11 and Galatians 3:27 show how it forms us as members of Christ. 1 Corinthians 10:1-10 indicates that baptism in itself is not a guarantee of salvation.*

38. In the Lord's Supper, Christ  
offers his own crucified body and shed blood to his people,  
assuring them a share in his death and resurrection.  
By the Holy Spirit, he feeds us with his resurrection life  
and binds us to each other as we share one loaf and cup.  
We receive this food gladly,  
believing, as we eat, that Jesus is our life-giving food and drink  
and that he will come again to call us to the wedding feast of the Lamb.

*Matthew 26:17-29 and parallels establish the Lord's Supper as a gospel sacrament. On the meaning of the Lord's Supper, see 1 Corinthians 5:7-8; 8:1-13; 10:14-21; and 11:23-26. See also Jesus' strong words on his presence in the Lord's Supper in John 6:48-58.*

39. The church is a gathering of forgiven sinners  
called to be holy.  
Saved by the patient grace of God,  
we deal patiently with others  
and together confess our need for grace and forgiveness.  
Restored in Christ's presence, shaped by his life, this new community  
lives out the ongoing story of God's reconciling love,  
announces the new creation,  
and works for a world of justice and peace.

*On the church as a forgiven community called to be holy, see Ephesians 1:3-7; on dealing with one another patiently, Galatians 6:1-5 and Colossians 3:12-14; on the need for confession and restoration, 1 John 1:8-2:6; and on living out God's reconciling love as part of a new creation, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 and 1 John 3:16-17.*

