

CHURCH: COMMUNITY

BEYOND SUNDAY

8.13.23

What does it mean to be the church of Jesus Christ? During this 8-week series, we will focus on what it means to be the community of believers. This week, our focus is on recognizing our forgiveness and who we are called to be as a **healing community**.

1. Do you want to be well? Life is more than our physical well being, but when something is not right, focus on our bodies captures our attention. There are five important gauges in our lives: *physical* (condition, strength, rest), *mental*, *emotional*, *relational*, *spiritual*. From 0 to 10 (empty to full) how are we doing in each of those areas of life? Are there other areas in your life other than the one that has your attention that God wants to touch you?
2. The lame man complained he had no one to help him into the healing water at the right time. It became a tape that he constantly used so much so that he couldn't even hear the question Jesus asked. What are the "tapes" in your life that prevent you from hearing Jesus asking you, "Do you want to be well?"
3. Do you recognize when Jesus heals you be it your physical body, mental health, emotions, relationships, spiritual? Do you, like the lame man, tell others that it was Jesus? If not, why not?
4. What is your normal response when someone shares that they are hurting? Sympathize? Empathize? Offer words of encouragement? Say, "I'll put you on the prayer chain?" Or "I will pray for you." Or do you instinctively pray right then and there to ask for God's mercy, grace, and healing power?
5. Share a story in which it became clear that you were a part of God's healing power or where you witnessed the signs and wonders of God.