



Observations from the pool

The healing at the Pool of Bethesda

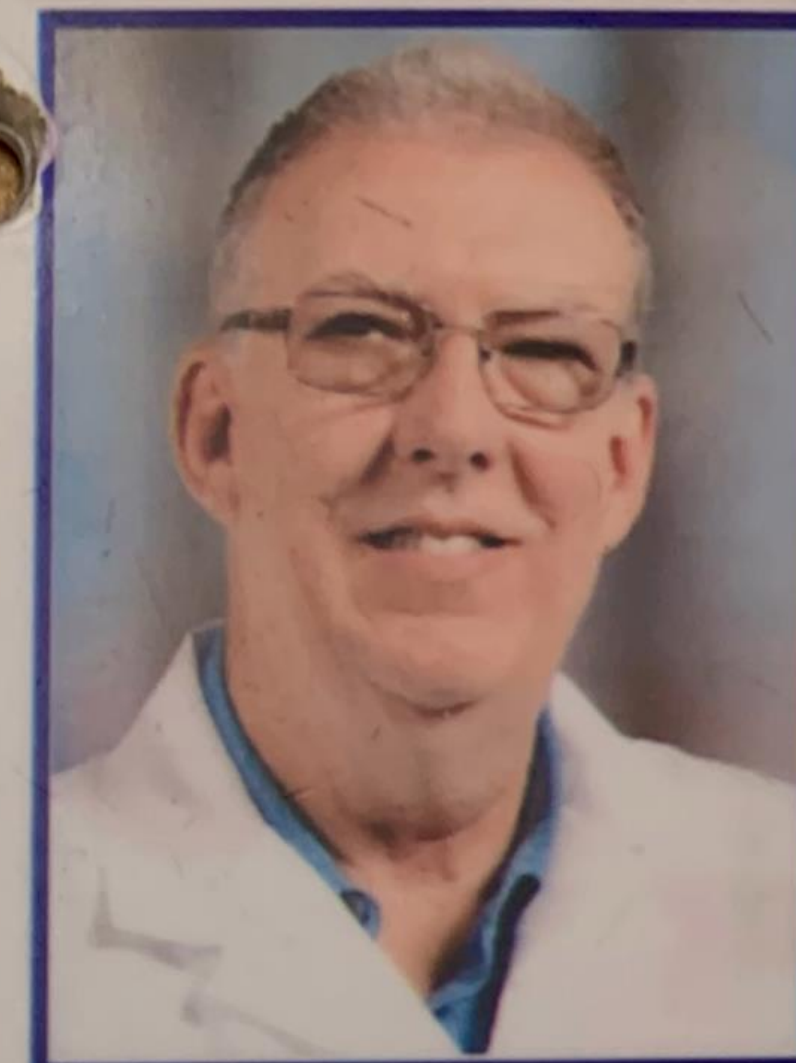
John 5: 1-9



Mary Bridge
Children's
Hospital · Clinics · Foundation

Dr. Kierum

Woodcreek Peds
Clinic MBH



Physician-MD





Elim
Evangelical Free Church

Caption

John 5: 1-9 (NIV)

¹ Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.

² Now, there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.

³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie - the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.

⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

John 5: 1-9 (NIV)

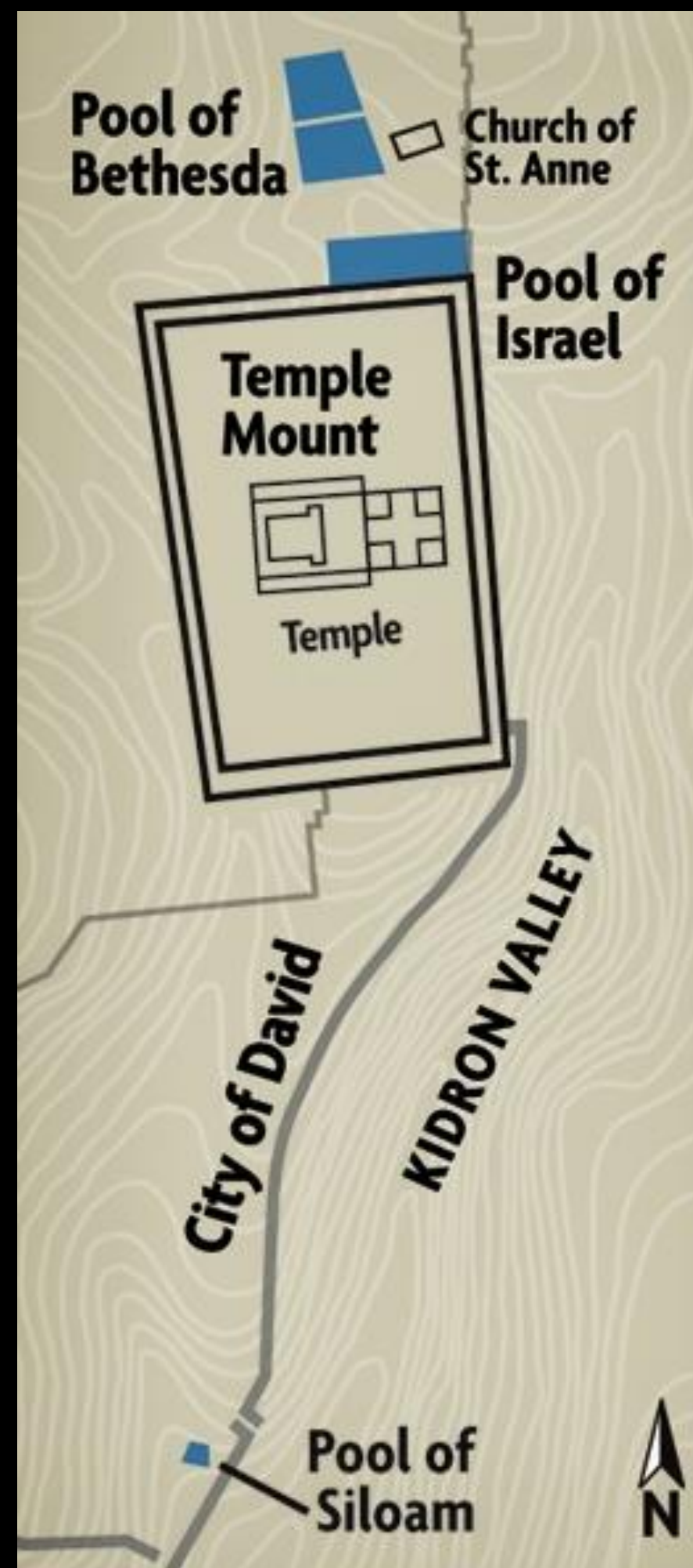
⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

⁷ “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes in ahead of me.”

⁸ Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

⁹ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath.

The Bethesda Pool



From “*The Puzzling Pool of Bethesda*” by Urban C von Wilde. Biblical Archeology Society Library.



Photo of a model of Jerusalem 70 A.D.

From *Ferrell's Travel Blog*

Sacred, pagan, or superstitious?

Understanding the Gospel of John

- John's focus is Jesus as God and man
- John only includes select events to point us towards this
- With each miracle or wondrous sign, there are multiple spiritual truths revealed



*Why does John include this event
in his Gospel?*

Jesus connected with those in need.

John 5: 1, 2-6a

- A great number of disabled people
- During a religious festival, Jesus took time to be with those in need.
- Jesus learned about this man's situation.



*How can you connect with those
in need?*

Jesus heals the man

John 5: 8

Get up

Pick up your mat

And walk

Jesus heals on the Sabbath

John 5: 9a

- Jesus healed on the Sabbath, and allowed other “sabbath violations”
- The Jewish leaders were indignant that Jesus told the man to carry his mat.
- Jesus was calling out the conflict between their adherence to religious rules instead of seeing His signs and wonders worked out before them.



*Do we have religious rules
blinding us to God's glory?*

Do you want to get well?

John 5: 6

- Is this an odd question?

Do you want to get well?

John 5: 6



wyns

Caption

HUGIES (hoog-ee-ace)

Well, whole, healthy, sound, true

Can refer to soundness of body or of mind

Do you want to get well?

John 5: 6

- Is this an odd question?
- Getting comfortable in our condition.
- Too focused on our situation
- Misplaced faith.
- Earning divine favor
- Later, Jesus met with the man and told him to stop sinning.



*When this became real for
me*



“This is my story”





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John 5: 1-9

Do YOU want to
get well?

