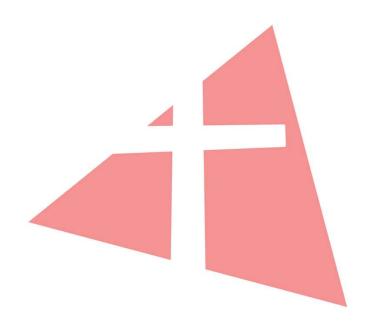
# **Praying for the Church**



#### Outreach

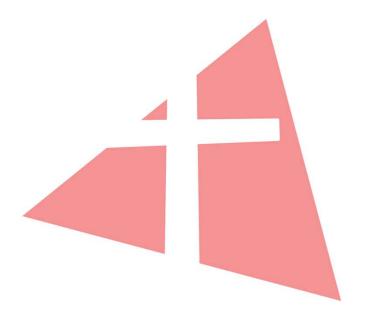
- What kind of outreach strategy does God want Aletheia to focus on?
- What kind of outreach activities does God want Aletheia to run?

# When we're not good enough for God's Blessings

September 26th 2021

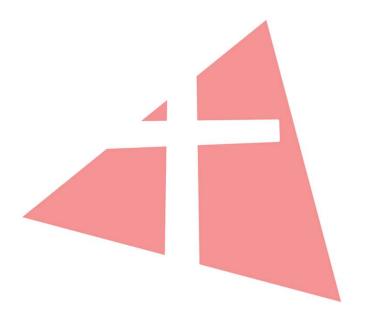
#### The Gospel of John

- Jesus is God
- Jesus cleanses the temple



# **Today's Focus**

• When we're not good enough for God's Blessings

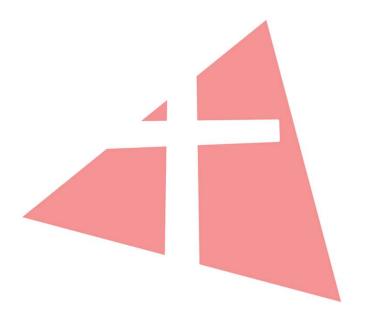


#### Jesus' Gifts and Works

John 5:1-9 After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of invalid folk, of blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. And a certain man was there, who had an infirmity thirty and eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had been now a long time in that condition, he said unto him, Will you be made whole? The invalid man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steps down before me. Jesus said unto him, Rise, take up your bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and that same day was the sabbath.

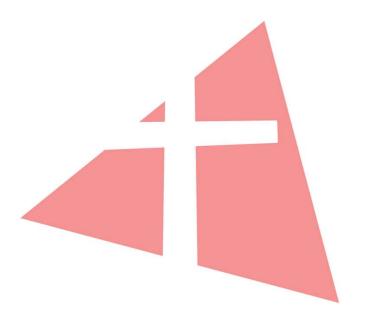
#### 38 years vs. One Encounter with God

- This man tried to earn his healing for 38 years
- Jesus changed everything in a moment



# The bigger picture

This is why Jesus came

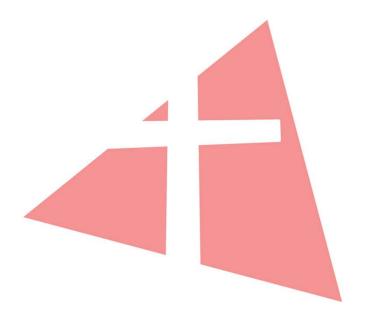


#### **After the Healing**

John 5:10-16 The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for you to carry your bed. He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up your bed, and walk. Then asked they him, What man is that who said unto you, Take up your bed, and walk? And he that was healed knew not who it was: for Jesus had taken himself away, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, you are made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto you. The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, who had made him whole. And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day.

#### Jesus' Message

- You don't have to earn anything
- I already did all the work



#### Jesus' Teaching

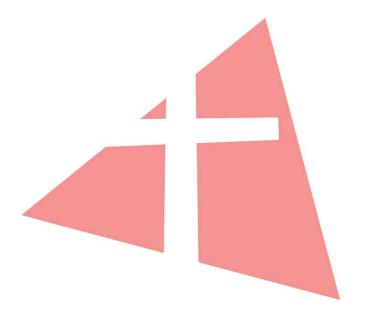
John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father do: for whatsoever things he does, these also does the Son likewise.

#### Jesus' Teaching

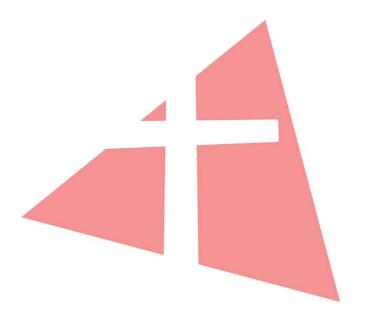
John 5:20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows him all things that he himself does: and he will show him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

#### Jesus' Teaching

Jesus' lifestyle should be our example



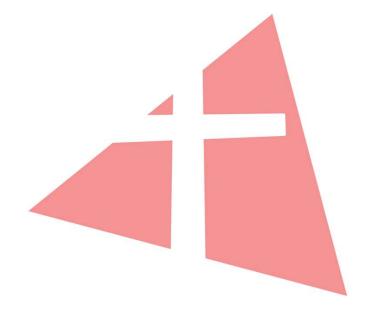
Jesus already did all the work



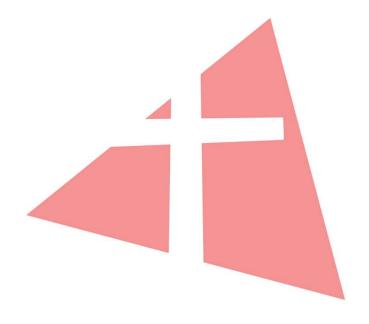
o Jesus wants to overcome our unbelief by simply giving us what we are trying to earn

• Satan will always tempt us to go back to trying to earn what Jesus already wants to give us

Living by Faith alone will create conflicts with other people



- So what kind of work are we supposed to do?
- Not Works for ourselves
- Now we ought to do works for the Glory of God
  - According to His will
  - For His Glory



#### In Conclusion

• What part of my life am I in my "38 years of trying to earn something from God"?