

Get up and Walk

November 06th 2022



My October

- **FEIC conference in Milan**
- **Weekend with Claire**
- **God's message: Get up and walk**



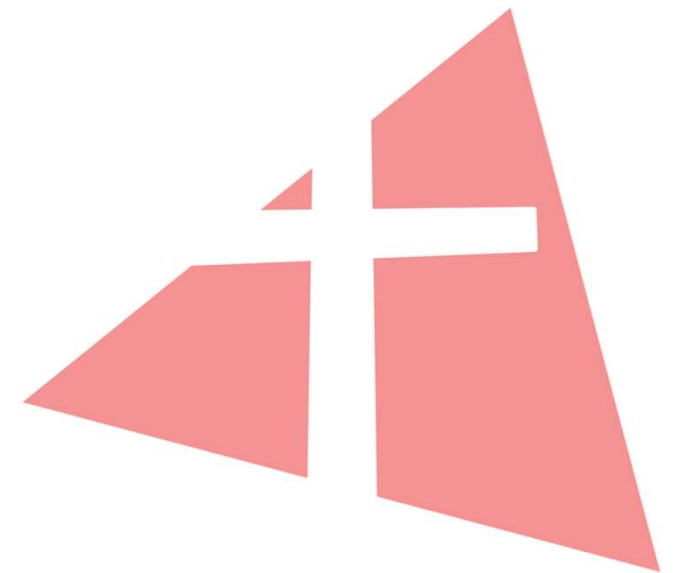
The passage

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.

The sick man

John 5:7 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.

- Years of “trying harder” did something to him
 - His worth
 - His self-image
 - His hope
 - ...



The main problem

- **He put all his hope in performance**
 - I have to be good enough
 - Other people have to help me to be good enough
- **He trusted in “healing by works”**
- **He believed that the circumstances prevented him from receiving his healing**



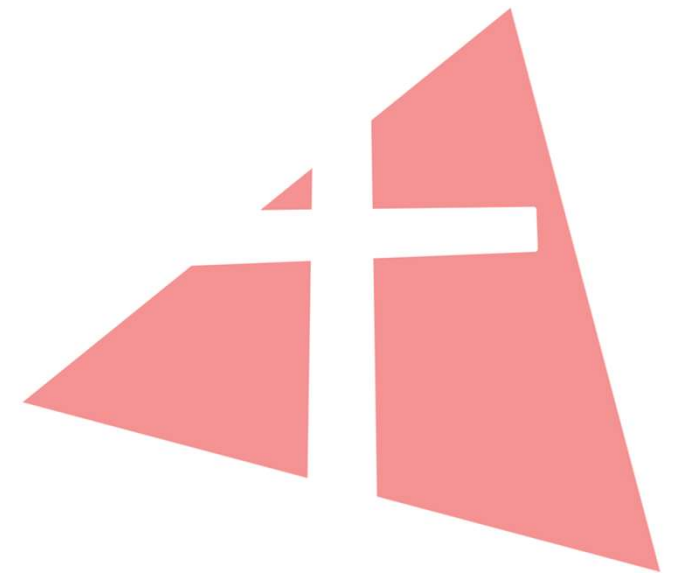
Jesus' intervention

- I just heal you
- I just mess up your whole belief system
- We'll talk about it later



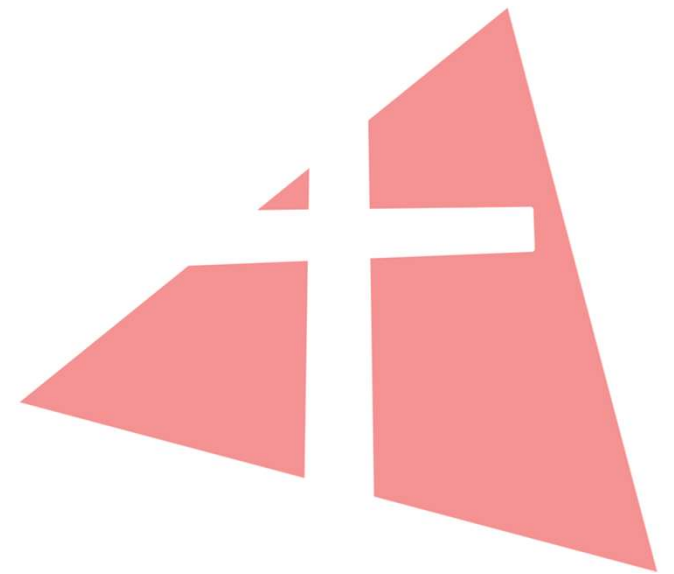
Jesus' intervention

- **Jesus didn't explain first what he was going to do**
- **Jesus just acted**
- **But the sick man still had to do one thing: Get up and walk**



While I was in Milan

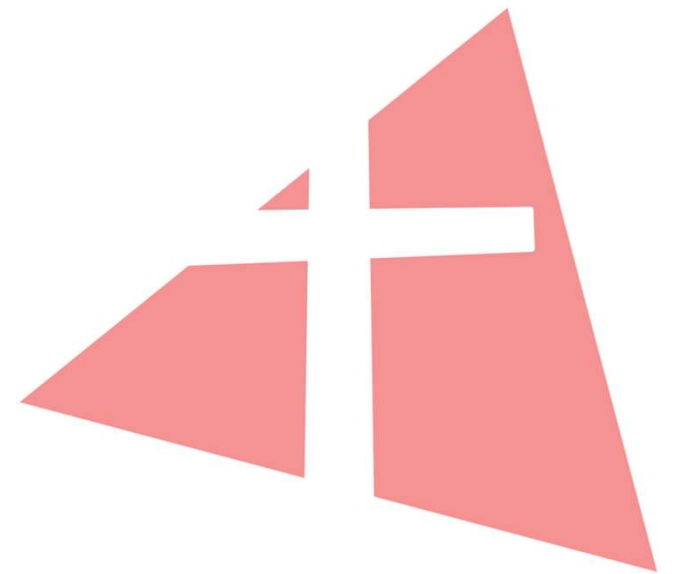
- **I believe God spoke this same message to me and to us**
 - Get up and walk
 - Stop being like the sick man at the pool of Bethesda



Aletheia three years ago

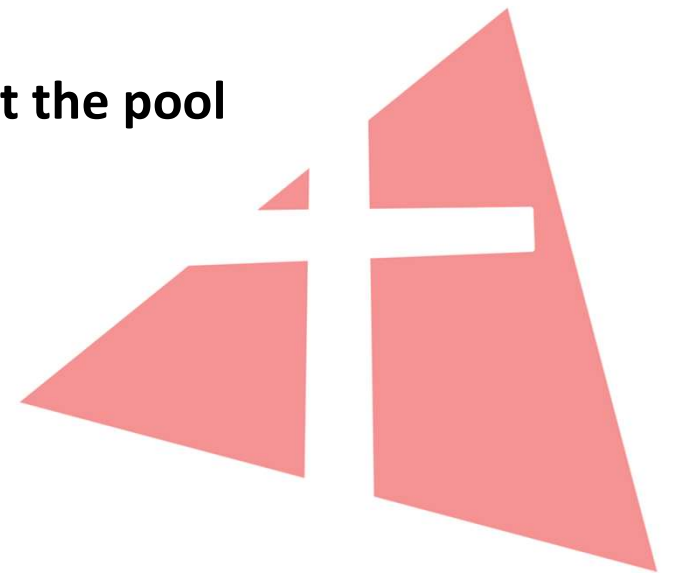
- **We had great plans 3 years ago**

- Make the Aletheia place our home
- Spend a lot of time together here
- Build greater community
- Invite non-Christians to simply spend time with them here
- ...



Then came Covid

- It looks like Covid did to us what the sickness did to the man at the pool



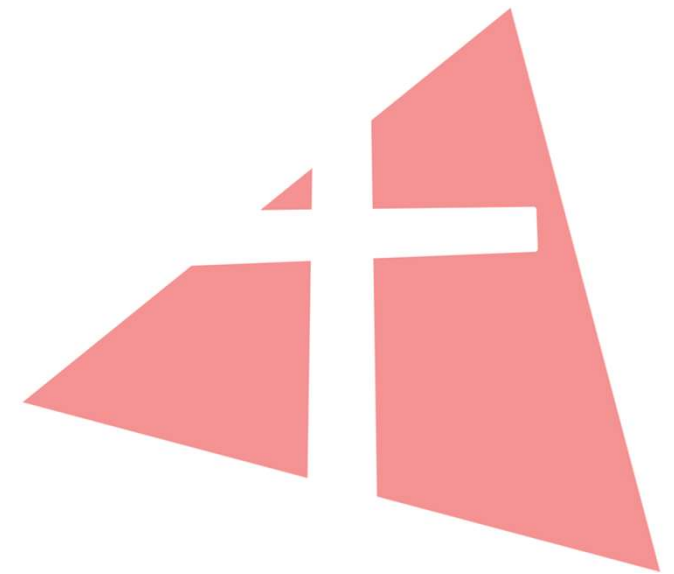
Just to be clear

- I'm not saying we should ignore our internal issues
- But we should not allow our internal issues from doing what we know God wants us to do



What I believe God is telling us

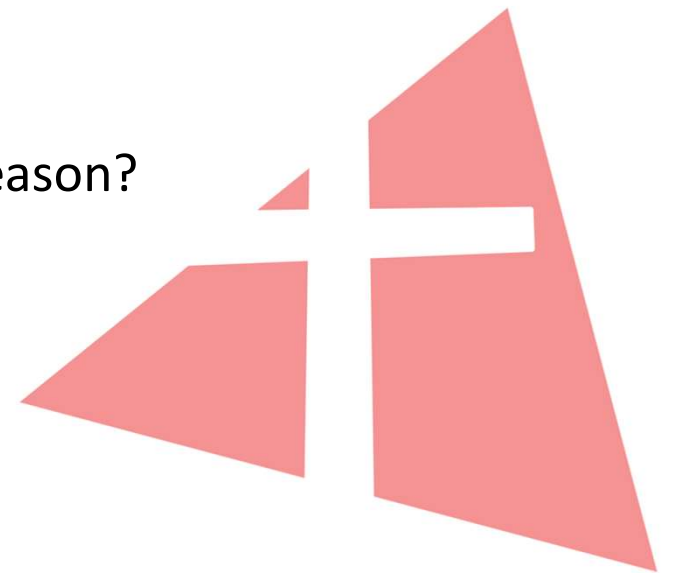
- **Get up and walk**
 - Stop feeling defeated
 - Stop feeling like “circumstances have to change first”
 - ...
- **Do the things you know you are called to do**
 - Community
 - Outreach
 - Outside Advisory Board
 - ...



One Question during the weekend with Claire

○ **What is my role within Aletheia?**

- What “body part” am I for this church body?
- What is God calling me to contribute to this church in this season?



Closing Question

- **We want everyone to seek God about the next steps for this church**
 - What is God calling us to do as a church?
 - What is God calling me personally to do to contribute to this church?

John 5:8 Jesus said unto him, Rise, take up your bed, and walk.

