



## “CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

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PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

**TEXT: JOHN 5:1-16**

**TITLE: HEALING OTHERS WITHOUT THEIR ASKING: SOME NEED AFFIRMATION**

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Some are in hopeless situations, communing with and depending on others in hopeless situations, hoping in a hopeless plan \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Far too many have placed their hope in that “something” they want to happen that will turn everything around for them \_\_\_\_\_
- C. We have been conditioned to believe that the answer to our problem is “over there.” Therefore, if I can just get “over there.” \_\_\_\_\_

### DO THEY KNOW WHY THEY ARE WHERE THEY ARE?

- A. In Jerusalem, by the Sheep Gate, there is a pool named Bethesda, having five porches which house sick, blind, lame and paralyzed people, waiting for the stirring of the water \_\_\_\_\_
- B. People build community with those who are like them \_\_\_\_\_
- C. However, those who are like them \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Are no better off than them
  - 2. Are not in a position to assist them
  - 3. Are in competition with them
- D. Even worse, their hope is often in a seemingly hopeless \_\_\_\_\_

### THEY NEED AFFIRMATION TO TRY SOMETHING NEW / SOMETHING DIFFERENT

- A. Jesus, “Do you want to be made well?” \_\_\_\_\_
- B. The man, “No. I want to be the first one in the pool when the water is stirred up.” \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Jesus was offering Himself as a solution while the man was looking to himself and others for a solution \_\_\_\_\_
- D. They need us! \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. “The church should not be involved in social issues. “ “We are in the business of saving souls.”
  - 2. “Let the government feed them...”
    - a. Mark 6:37, Jesus said, “You feed them.”
    - b. They have a deeper need that only we can meet
  - 3. The Sheep Gate was on the north side of the city through which animals were brought for sacrifice. Everyone who brought in animals for their sacrifice saw the five porches full of people in need
  - 4. What do I do when I see people around me in need?

### HAVE THEM DO WHAT THEY CAN DO

- A. Jesus, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk.” \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Immediately, the man was made well (stood up), picked up his mat and began walking \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Expect that they will conquer what is holding them in as hopeless situation \_\_\_\_\_