

## Life-Sharing Series From Triage To Transformation Lesson 1 The Crisis John 5:1-15

1. Has there ever been a time when you had wanted to be sicker just a little longer, if so why?

2. Why should we not assume that everyone wants to get well?

**John 5:1-15 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Here a great number of disabled people used to lie--the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.

<sup>4</sup> **(John 5:4 (NASB77))**

<sup>4</sup> for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and stirred up the water; whoever then first, after the stirring up of the water, stepped in was made well from whatever disease with which he was afflicted.]) <sup>5</sup> One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

<sup>6</sup> 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?" <sup>7</sup> "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 down ahead of me." <sup>8</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."

<sup>9</sup> At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, <sup>10</sup> and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat." <sup>11</sup> But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'" <sup>12</sup> So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?" <sup>13</sup> The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there. <sup>14</sup>

Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." <sup>15</sup> The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

3. Why are the people hanging around the Pool of Bethesda?

4. Why is verse 4 missing from some translations?

5. How long had this man been at the pool, and how did he get there?
  
6. Why do you think Jesus did not attempt to engage all of the people at the pool and heal them all at once?
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why does Jesus ask this man if he wants to get well?
  
  
  
  
  
8. What is strange and disappointing about the man's response to Jesus' question?
  
  
  
  
  
9. When have you tried to help someone that did not want to be helped, and what ended up happening?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Why do you think Jesus tells this man to do something that will obviously get him into trouble?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. What might Jesus ask us to do that will get us in trouble?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 11 a. When Jesus ask us things, are we more likely to respond with an enthusiastic yes, or offer excuses why it has not happened?

12. Why are the people so upset over the man being healed on the Sabbath? Do you think they would have rejected the healing had it been done to them or one that they loved? Why or Why not?

13. What does the man's response to the questions about carrying his mat reveal about his character?

14. Why do we sometime give evasive answers to questions about Jesus?

15. What causes this man to betray Jesus?

16. Do you think this man was made well?

## Life-Sharing Series From Triage To Transformation Lesson 2 The Emergency Room Mark 1:40-45

1. What was your last experience like for you at the emergency room?
  
2. What would it be like to go to the emergency room and not know whether or not they were going to be willing to treat you or not?

"Unclean! Unclean!" the man shouted, and everyone scattered to avoid contact with the leper—everyone except Jesus.

The religious wisdom of the day demanded that a holy man keep away from the common people, the "sinners." So Jesus was bound to encounter resistance as he openly welcomed them. This passage focuses on Christ's compassion toward those we normally avoid.

LifeGuide Bible Studies - Mark: Follow Me.

### **Mark 1:40-45 (NIV)**

<sup>40</sup> A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." <sup>41</sup> Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.

<sup>43</sup> Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: <sup>44</sup> "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." <sup>45</sup> Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

3. [Leviticus 13:45-46](#) states that a leper "must wear torn clothes, let his hair be unkempt, cover the lower part of his face and cry out, 'Unclean! Unclean!' As long as he has the infection he remains unclean. He must live alone; he must live outside the camp." How then would this disease have affected the man psychologically, religiously and socially?

4. Describe how you think this man was physically coming to Jesus? What risks are involved in his approaching Jesus?

4a. Why do you think the man is confident that Jesus could heal him, if Jesus was willing?

5. What risk is involved in Jesus coming near to the leper?

5a. When may we have to lay down our reputations in order to be obedient to God?

6. What risk is involved we approach Jesus for help in our situations.

7. What does it say to you about Jesus, in that Jesus touched the man, before he healed the man? What does a touch communicate?

8. How do you feel about touching people who come to our feeding program who do not always look that great? What about people visiting our church during the greet time or during coffee hour?

9. Describe the last time you experienced God's compassion in your life?
10. Does God's compassion mean that God is always willing to heal our bodies or to change our situations?
11. Why do you think the man disobeyed Jesus' order not to tell anyone until after a priest had examined him and he had paid the necessary offering?
12. How was Jesus' ministry cut short by the man's actions of sharing the miracle of what God had done?
13. How can our desire to do good, be a hindrance to the kingdom of God?
14. Did this man leave Jesus "well."

## Life-Sharing Series From Triage To Transformation Lesson 3 The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) 2 Chronicles 26:15-23

1. What comes to your mind when you are told that someone is intensive care?
  
2. What do you think would put a person in a spiritual intensive care unit?

### 2 Chronicles 26:15-23 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> In Jerusalem he made machines designed by skillful men for use on the towers and on the corner defenses to shoot arrows and hurl large stones. His fame spread far and wide, for he was greatly helped until he became powerful.

<sup>16</sup> But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

<sup>17</sup> Azariah the priest with eighty other courageous priests of the LORD followed him in.

<sup>18</sup> They confronted him and said, "It is not right for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense. Leave the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful; and you will not be honored by the LORD God."

<sup>19</sup> Uzziah, who had a censer in his hand ready to burn incense, became angry. While he was raging at the priests in their presence before the incense altar in the LORD's temple, leprosy broke out on his forehead.

<sup>20</sup> When Azariah the chief priest and all the other priests looked at him, they saw that he had leprosy on his forehead, so they hurried him out. Indeed, he himself was eager to leave, because the LORD had afflicted him.

<sup>21</sup> King Uzziah had leprosy until the day he died. He lived in a separate house--leprosy, and excluded from the temple of the LORD. Jotham his son had charge of the palace and governed the people of the land.

<sup>22</sup> The other events of Uzziah's reign, from beginning to end, are recorded by the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz.

<sup>23</sup> Uzziah rested with his fathers and was buried near them in a field for burial that belonged to the kings, for people said, "He had leprosy." And Jotham his son succeeded him as king.

3. Often times cancer is spreading through our body and we do not recognize it. How does pride often do the same thing?

4. King Uzziah was 16 when he became King and reigned for 52 years. How might that have contributed to his pride?

**2 Chronicles 26:4-5 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. <sup>5</sup> He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God. As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success.

5. The above verses refer to King Uzziah. How come God's blessing in our lives are not enough to keep us seeking after God?

6. With all that he had going for him, why do you think Uzziah insisted on attempting to burn incense on the altar of incense?

7. Why were the actions of the priests courageous?

8. What responsibility do we have toward other Christians, when we know they are planning to disobey the word of God with their lifestyle?



9. How is pride at the root of our disobedience in almost all areas of a plan of continual sin?

10. What's the difference between judging a person and trying to keep them from going astray and should we follow the word of God in the following passage?

**1 Corinthians 5:9-13 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people-- <sup>10</sup> not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. <sup>11</sup> But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. <sup>12</sup> What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? <sup>13</sup> God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

11. Should we expect negative confrontation when we challenge the behavior of others as the priest did? When should that fear of confrontation not be enough to keep us from taking a stand?

12. What do you think would be the result if God dealt with willful disobedience today as quickly as God did with Uzziah or with Ananias and Saphira in Acts 5?

13. Why do you think God is slow to dispense punishment for sin today?

14. What can we learn from Uzziah about the connection between repentance, forgiveness, and the future?

15. Do you think Uzziah was an ICU patient that left the ICU unit healed?

16. Why is it that what we do in hour period can so drastically alter our spiritual condition for years to come?

## Life-Sharing Series From Triage To Transformation Lesson 4 The Recovery John 9 :1-41

1. Can you recall an event that happened to you, in which you were convinced of a truth even when others tried to persuade you otherwise? You knew what you knew because of your first hand experience.
  
2. You may not be able to quote a lot of passages in the bible or where they are located, but you can say, "I know this is what Jesus did for me." Why is this important for every believer to remember?

### John 9:1-41 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. <sup>4</sup> As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

<sup>6</sup> Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes.

<sup>7</sup> "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. <sup>8</sup> His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup> Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

<sup>10</sup> "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. <sup>11</sup> He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

<sup>12</sup> "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said. <sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind.

<sup>14</sup> Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. <sup>15</sup> Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." <sup>16</sup> Some of

the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided.

<sup>17</sup> Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet."

<sup>18</sup> The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. <sup>19</sup> "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?" <sup>20</sup> "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself."

<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup> He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" <sup>26</sup> Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" <sup>28</sup> Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses!

<sup>29</sup> We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. <sup>32</sup> Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup> To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." <sup>38</sup> Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." <sup>40</sup> Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?"

<sup>41</sup> Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

3. Do we really believe that we are in the condition we are in so that the works of God may be displayed in us? What kind of works might God be wanting to display in us?

4. How would you have felt if you had been the blind man listening to the conversation between Jesus and the disciples?

5. Why do you think Jesus did not just heal the man with words instead of going through the mud and saliva?

6. If you notice the passage closely, Jesus did not guarantee the man a healing. He simply gave him steps to follow. Do you think our healings are ever tied into our obedience to what God has told us to do? Why or Why not?

7. Why do you think the man was eager to speak up to his neighbors to let them know he was the man who had been born blind?

8. Why could the Pharisees see the Sabbath breaking, but not the miracle of the eyes being healed?

9. How do we sometimes allow our traditions keep us from seeing a fresh move of God?

10. How would you have felt if you were the parents of the man who had been healed being forced to make a choice between your son and your standing in the religious community?

11. What do you think the man could have possibly have said that would have satisfied the Pharisees request that he give glory to God by telling the truth?

12. When is it that facts will not be enough to convince a person of the truth?

13. Why do the leaders get upset over the man's teachings about God?

14. Why do you think Jesus went searching for the man after the Pharisees had thrown him out?

15. How do we know that Jesus is God from this passage?

16. Who do you think would find Jesus' final words to be offensive today?

**John 9:41 (NIV)** <sup>41</sup> Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

17. Did this man healed of blindness leave Jesus well.

## Life-Sharing Series From Triage To Transformation Lesson 5 The Discharge Acts 9:1-22

1. What does it feel like to be released from the hospital? What kind of thoughts occupy your mind?

2. Each week we are discharged from church. What do you think God expects to happen as we are released back into the world?

### Acts 9:1-22 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

<sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." <sup>7</sup> The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

<sup>10</sup> In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. <sup>11</sup> The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying.

<sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight." <sup>13</sup> "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." <sup>17</sup> Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord--Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here--has sent me so that you may



see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.<sup>20</sup> At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. <sup>21</sup> All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" <sup>22</sup> Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

3. How does Paul go from radical persecution of Christians to being their number one supporter in 3 days?

4. What do you think would have been going through your head if you had been Saul and discovered you were persecuting Jesus who obviously has some power that caused him to fall to the ground?

5. How would you have felt when you could no longer see? What do you think would have been your initial reaction to your blindness?

6. Why was it hard for Ananias to want to pray for Saul?

7. Have there been times when you did not want God to do something good for someone else because of what they had done to you or to others? How does a Christian deal with these feelings?

8. What was it that Saul had that the other disciples especially the 11 from Jesus did not have to bring to the kingdom of God?

9. Does God ever choose us for a particular mission, because we have a certain talent, gift or education level?

10. When God calls Saul, God plans for suffering to be a painful part of Saul's mission? How does this fit with the gospel of prosperity that says "if you follow Jesus, your faith can keep pain and suffering out of your life?"

11. Why do you think Ananias calls Saul "Brother Saul" when he places his hand on Saul?

12. Ananias prayed that Saul would receive his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Is it strange that Paul is filled with the Holy Spirit but there is no mention of Paul speaking in tongues?

13. Why do you think Saul immediately started to preach in the synagogues that Jesus was the Son Of God?

14. Why do you think it was hard for those opposing Saul to challenge his message?

15. What do you think were some of the things Saul used to prove that Jesus was the Messiah?

16. When Saul left Ananias, do you think he had been made well? Why