WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Notes

Series Title: "How to look forward"
Key Scripture: John 5:1-9 NIV
Recorded Sermon: https://www.woodvale.ca/pastservices
Date + Speaker: December 31, 2023 Pastor Joel Alleyne

Starter: What was the legend about the pool of Bethesda?

Discussion:

1. Read John 5:1-2
    - What was happening in Jerusalem at that time?

2. Pastor Joel described the pool just outside the city walls of Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate. What was the surrounding atmosphere at this pool? (John 5:3)

3. The Aramaic name of the pool is*" Bethesda".* What does Bethesda mean?

4. What did Jesus ask the sick man who was lying there? (5:5-6)
    - Why do you think Jesus asked that question?
    - At the start of 2024, what do you sense Jesus is asking you?

5. What was the man's response to Jesus? (5: 5:7)
    - How would you have answered Jesus?

6. What did Jesus do then? Discuss what He said to the man. (5:8-9)
    - What does this healing reveal about Jesus?

7. What insights did you gain from the story of healing at the Pool of Bethesda? Share these insights with each other.

8. How are you "looking forward" in 2024? Talk about the faith and hope you have in Christ.

Prayer and Personal Reflection:

Take time to pray and thank God for his grace, mercy and healing in our lives.

- What is He asking you to rise up and do in Christ this year?