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**Next Life Group's Story/Passage:** Luke 8:40-56

**Memory Verse:** *And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.* Luke 5:37

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**Our Church's Definition of a Biblical Disciple of Jesus**

A person who is committed to ***following, being changed by,*** and ***on mission*** with Jesus (taken from Matthew 4:19).

**The Purpose of Life Groups**

Life Groups are where we connect and grow with God and with others through relationships; growing in spiritual maturity as biblical disciples of Jesus. Life Groups are loving, safe and interactive; a place where people can be authentic and vulnerable as they explore, experience, and grow in relationship with Jesus, the Word and others to inspire a culture of discipleship as we do life together. *Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:23-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11*



## HIS Story

*And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. Luke 5:37*

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**Getting Started:** What was your favorite or most comforting thing when you stayed home from school sick?

**Context:** Why is it such a big issue for the Jews for Jesus to heal on the Sabbath? Keeping the Sabbath holy is one of the ten commandments given by God through Moses to Israel (*Ex. 20:8*), and the implications of someone breaking the Sabbath were pretty severe (*Lev. 23:29,30*). Jesus' teaching "*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath*" (*Mark 2:27*) was revolutionary for the Jews. For God did not create man so that he would obey the law, but created the law so that he would be closer to Him. Yet for the Jews the liturgy (*ritual*) of the law was more important, and this ultimately brought them to persecute Christ (*John 5:18*).



**Story/Passage:** John 5:1-18

## The Healing at the Pool on the Sabbath

### Head Level

These questions help us to examine what the Word tells us.



- Why did the Jews ignore the newly-healed man in front of them and concentrate on Jesus "breaking the rules"?
- Why would Jesus heal someone on Sabbath, knowing their hearts and what was written in the law?

### Heart Level

These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.



- Were the Jews doing anything wrong by adhering to the commandments in the Law?
- What in your life has become a liturgy (religious pattern) that you follow? How might it be impeding you from truly getting closer to God's heart?

### Hands Level

These questions help us commit to a next step and live it out in our everyday lives.



- Now that you are aware of this, what will you do to convert it into a more meaningful experience with Him?
- How does tonight's lesson influence your future learning of God's principles written in His Word?