

## **Jesus is the Source of... Forgiveness and Restoration** **Matthew 9:1-8**

Do you want to know what the top 10 New Year's resolutions were for 2015 according to Nielsen statistics? Well, here they are:

10. Read More: 12%
9. Travel More: 14%
8. Learn Something New/New Hobby: 14%
7. Will Not Make Any Resolutions: 16%
6. Get Organized: 18%
5. Spend More Time with Family and Friends: 19%
4. Spend Less, Save More: 25%
3. Enjoy Life to The Fullest: 28%
2. Lose Weight: 32%
1. Stay Fit and Healthy: 37%

Have you made any of these? Have you broken any of these? Sometimes, we keep the resolutions we make, but the reality is, most of the time... we don't keep them for this reason or the next. For whatever the reason may be, with resolutions as well the decisions of life, many times we cannot follow through with obtaining that in which is truly desirable and beneficial in our lives. Sometimes, we wish we could just tap into a direct source of fulfillment in life. Right? That's what we really want deep down.

The Scriptures define Jesus as the "Living Water." In John 7:37a and 38 Jesus said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me as the Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them" (NIV). If you are thirsty today, if you are looking for **the source** of fulfillment, you must ask yourself, "What have I done with Jesus?" If you don't feel as if your needs are supplied, your joy is gone, and your hope is no where to be found ask yourself, "Is Jesus the Lord of my life?" Because in Jesus we find **the source** of all blessing. When we place Jesus first, we find him to be **the source** of all we need.

To find **the source** of our fulfillment which is beyond our grasp, that in which we cannot obtain on our own, we must go to **the source, Jesus Christ.**

In our text today, we see **the source** of blessing in the life of a paralyzed man. He came before Jesus because of the faith of his friends. Did you notice that the man never said a word? Jesus saw their faith and healed the man totally, both physically and spiritually. That day, he found in Jesus **the source** of forgiveness and redemption, neither of which he could have never manufactured on his own. The on-looks that day saw Jesus as just a man, much like people do today, but in this man of a physical world, was a supernatural power. Remember, "What is impossible for man is possible with God" (Luke 18:27, NIV). If you are in need, go to **the source.**