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"Come away by yourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile!..." Mark 6:31
Are you ready to accept the invitation?

“Do you want to be healed?”

March 12, 2016

That’s the question Jesus frequently asks when a sick, lame, or blind person approaches him with the hope of being healed of their malady: “Do you want to be healed?”

Imagine this response:

Uh, excuse me Jesus, but isn't that obvious? After all these years of waiting and hoping and praying, what else would I want?

“I must ask you the question because if you are healed, your life will change in ways that might be beyond anything you have ever imagined. To be healed is to be free of such questions as ‘Why me?’ or ‘If only....’ To be healed is to become free of all such rationales and excuses. To be healed is to be given the freedom to form your daily life in perhaps radically new ways. To be healed is to be freed to become increasingly responsible for yourself, and possibly for others as well. To be healed is to be given the freedom to become increasingly loving; because you can love only to the degree that you are free.

“Not everyone wants such a share in the blessings, but also the burdens of freedom. It saddens me to say this, but some people would rather remain stuck, enslaved, right where they are, than take the risks, and receive the rewards, that come with being free. I cannot do much for such folk as that.

“And so I must always ask each person the question; and now I ask you:

“Do you want to be healed?”

Well, do I?

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