

100420 Growth Group Study

Your Son Will Live

John 4:43-54



Background: At the end of his Gospel, John tells us that he has written his masterpiece so that “you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31). In these early chapters of John, we have seen several people come to genuinely believe in Jesus: his mother and disciples in chapter 2, and the Samaritan woman and the Samaritan townspeople in chapter 4. This week, we see Jesus, the Word, speak but a word (actually 5 words) to a desperate father, and the question is - will this man genuinely believe Jesus’ words or not? Join our live stream this week as we explore what genuine faith in Jesus, the Word, looks like.

Sermon Text (ESV):

John 4:43-54

43 After the two days he departed for Galilee. 44 (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) 45 So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

46 So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48 So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs

and wonders you will not believe.” 49 The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” 50 Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. 51 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52 So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household. 54 This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

Discussion Questions:

- Preparation
 - As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
 - What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- Sermon Questions
 - The official showed considerable humility to seek out & earnestly appeal for Jesus to heal his son. In what situation or circumstance has someone’s humility made an impression upon you? How/why?
 - Jesus warns us of the danger of seeking signs – a “sign & wonder” faith – because it shifts our focus away from Jesus to the sign itself, and we can become dependent on the signs. How have you dealt or struggled with seeking signs at some point in your Christian walk?
 - What does it look like to have “rainy weather” faith – for you and those around you – as we continue to weather the challenges of 2020?
 - Shawn shared 5 reflections on what it means to go to Jesus with genuine faith about our needs. Which of these are most meaningful or relevant to you?
 - Run to Him
 - Ask Him boldly and expectantly
 - Recognize that He may not respond how you want
 - Trust & obey what He says
 - Leave Him the right to do what He decides to do