

**SUNDAY 10.03.2024**

**RELIGION TO RELATIONSHIP-PART 4**

**JOHN 4:43-54 NIV**

**TAKE JESUS AT HIS WORD**

After two days he left for Galilee. 44

(Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.)

45 When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.

▶ 46 Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.

▶ 48 “Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “You will never believe.” 49 The royal official said, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” 50 “Go,” Jesus replied, “your son will live.” **The man took Jesus at his word and departed.**

▶ 51 While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. 52 When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, “Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.”

▶ 53 Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” So, he and his whole household believed.

54 This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

## ► INTRODUCTION

God works uniquely in many ways and in various situations, while at Cana in early stages of his ministry as Jesus prepared to change water into wine, he requested the servants to ‘Fill six stone water jars with water’; so, they filled them to the brim. (2:5-7).

► And yet at a different place he only needed two fish and five pieces of loaf to feed five thousand people. (Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:31-44, Luke 9:12-17, John 6:1-14).



▶ I like what Mary told the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” (2:5). In other words, ‘Take him at his word’. I do believe that Jesus had the capacity to request for a glass of water and fill the six water jars. God is working uniquely in your situation.

► In Jerusalem near the sheep gate Pool, a man who was an invalid for thirty-eight years was told “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. (John 5:8-9). The man did not insist on jumping into the pool.

► In John 9, Jesus' spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. "Go," he told him, "Wash in the Pool of Siloam" (*this word means "Sent"*). So, the man went and washed, and came home seeing. (9:6-7).

▶ **Taking Jesus at his word.**

*What does this mean to us?*

► After Jesus had finished talking with the Samaritan woman, ... the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed with them for two days (4:40), after two days He left for Galilee. Once more He visited Cana in Galilee, where He had turned the water into wine.

▶ While in Galilee a nobleman (royal official) from the city of Capernaum approached and begged Him to go to his house and heal his dying son. The noble man had travelled all the way from Capernaum to see Jesus (46).

► It's estimated that the distance between Cana where Jesus was speaking, and Capernaum was about 25 kilometers or (about 15 miles). This speaks of the man's love for his son as well as his faith in Jesus' power.





- ▶ When Jesus talked about the people of Galilee not believing without signs and miracles, he was most probably speaking to the crowd around him.
- ▶ Instead of going to this man's house in Capernaum, Jesus told the nobleman to go back home. His son would live.

- ▶ The nobleman “**Took Jesus at his word**” and returned home to find his son well. The fever had gone at the same hour Jesus had said he would live.
- ▶ His word comes to us in many ways.

**1) It could be that whisper you ignored coming through a friend or your heart.**

## ▶ 2) It could be The Bible.

a) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Tim. 3:16).

b) Paul writing to young Timothy also encouraged him, “Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. (2 Tim 4:2-3).

c) His word says “I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. (John 10:10), “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (10:11). ... “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (14:6)

- ▶ **Today take him at his word :**
- ▶ The royal official took Jesus at his word and left (50), he didn't wait first to see a miracle. He didn't wait for Jesus to first prove himself worth of trust. Jesus told him, your son will live, and he believed. That is all he needed.

▶ Do we have loved ones facing situations of desperate need? What is Jesus saying about it? Have we been able to listen and hear his still, small voice? And where he has made prophetic promises, are we taking him at his word?



► Sometimes we expect God to answer in our way, and our timing. What if God is teaching us to trust that, if we let him do things in his way, and his timing, he will deliver what's needed? That is why it's important that we believe in Jesus for who he is, rather than for what he can do for us.

▶ Father, may you give us faith like the centurion man, he asked Jesus to heal his servant by His word, he showed that he trusted God's Word. He believed that all that was necessary was for God's Word to be spoken for healing to occur in even the most desperate case. (Matt 8:8).