

17 July



### Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 10



### Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member or work colleague the healing power of Jesus in John 4:43 – 53?
2. What did the nobleman ask Jesus to do according to John 4:47?  
**(To heal his son, for he was at the point of death.)**
3. What was Jesus' response to the nobleman in John 4:48? **(Jesus said to him; "unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.")**
4. How did the nobleman respond to Jesus' words in John 4:49?  
**(He said; "Sir, come down before my child dies.")**



### Let's go deeper

5. What promise did Jesus give the nobleman in John 4:50?  
**(Jesus said; "go your son lives.")**
6. Did the nobleman believe Jesus' words and promise? **(Yes, v.50 tells us that the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.)**
7. What did the nobleman's servants told him when they met him in v.51?  
**(His servants met him and told him, saying, "your son lives.")**
8. How did the nobleman respond to the healing of his son in v.53?  
**(He himself believed, and his whole household.)**
9. What does v.54 tell us about this healing? **(This is the second sign Jesus did).**



### Let's apply this

**10. John 4:53;** So, the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "your son lives." And he himself believed and his whole household.

The miraculous power of Jesus developed greater faith in both the nobleman and his household. He believed before, but now he believed more. His faith was deepened by his personal experience of God's power.

- Have you ever asked Jesus for a healing or miracle?
- Jesus' Word is more powerful than any sickness or pain.
- Remind a friend or family member this week that Jesus' Word is more powerful than death.

### SUMMARY:

**Gospel of John:** Week 10 (Jesus heals a noble man's son).

**Read:** John 4:43 – 53

**v.43 – 46;** Galilee was Jesus' country – where He grew up. Because the people felt so familiar with Jesus, they did not honour Him the way they should have. In this we recognize that they really were not familiar with Jesus; if they were, they would have honoured Him all the more. There is such a thing as a false familiarity with Jesus; a dangerous feeling that we know all about Him. Such a dangerous feeling leads to a lack of honour towards Jesus.

**v.46 – 48;** The nobleman travelled 32km from Capernaum to Cana. This certain nobleman was one of many parents who came to Jesus on behalf of an afflicted child. He obviously came with passion and urgency of a father of a sick child – and at the point of death.

**v.49 – 50;** The nobleman did not appeal to Jesus on the basis of his noble status, but on the basis of his son's great need. Coming to Jesus as a great and important man would gain him nothing before Jesus. Jesus severely tested this man's faith, forcing him to believe in Jesus' word alone and not in any outward demonstration of the miraculous. Despite the test, the man took Jesus at His word and departed (NIV). The nobleman demonstrated that true faith is simply taking Jesus at His word.

Jesus did not use any dramatic effects in this healing. Many people want to see dramatic effects in God's work; and sometimes God provides them. Real faith may perceive and accept the outward demonstration of the miraculous, but does not require it.

**v.51 – 54;** The miraculous power of Jesus developed greater faith in both the nobleman and his household. He believed before, but now he believed more. His faith was deepened by his personal experience of God's power.

In the Gospel of John the signs are given to lead the reader to faith (see John 20:29 – 31). The relation between belief and signs is clear in John 2 and 4.

- The first sign persuaded His disciples.
- The second sign persuaded a Jewish nobleman and his household.
- The Samaritans believed without a sign.

The first two signs in the Gospel of John took place at Cana of Galilee. The first was at the best party ever – a wedding party.

The second was connected with the worst tragedy ever – the illness and soon death of a child. Jesus is real in both aspects.