

A Crisis that Develops Faith

John 4:43-54 **Now after two days** he departed thence, and went into Galilee. 44 For Jesus himself testified, that **a prophet hath no honour in his own country.** 45 **Then** when he was come into Galilee, the **Galilaeans received him**, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast. 46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a **certain nobleman**, whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, **he went unto him**, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the **point of death.** 48 Then said Jesus unto him, **Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.** 49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. 50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And **the man believed the word** that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. 51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told *him*, saying, Thy son liveth. 52 Then inquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the

fever left him. 53 So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and **himself believed, and his whole house.** 54 This *is* again **the second miracle** *that* Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

- This is the second miracle both done to prove that He is God
- One miracle over comes time-Jesus can make instant wine
- The other miracle overcomes distance-Jesus can heal with just His words and doesn't have to travel to the needy person
- Many people receive Jesus for personal benefit but have no real faith--he has been doing signs and wonders
- Many do not worship Jesus but use Him for their benefit which is a means of worshipping ourselves
- A dad's faith can influence and affect his entire family

1. No honor for the prophet 4:43 **Now after two days** he departed thence, and went into Galilee. 44 For Jesus himself testified, that **a prophet hath no honour in his own country.** 45 **Then** when he was come into Galilee,

the **Galilaeans received him**, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

- a. Many people reject the message because they refuse to see. They are too focused on the messenger
 - i. They saw Him as the carpenter's son
 - ii. They knew He had no education or preparation for what He was doing
 - iii. They knew Him personally and so couldn't believe He was really God
- b. Jesus does not let their attitude towards Him stop Him from doing the work
 - i. He returns to a place where He knows that He is not respected
 - ii. He works in the face of criticism and doubt
 - iii. He works His first and second miracle in this same place
- c. Your family and friends may not act like they will listen to you -- you are the prophet in your own country and without honor
 - i. You should handle it like Jesus and just keep living out who you are in Christ
 - ii. Do not go into hiding

- iii. Do not develop a bad attitude towards them
- iv. Sometimes their rejection leads to our arrogance
- d. Jesus has just been in Samaria among a people that aren't accepted by others but they accepted Him and listened to Him, they believed Him
- e. When Jesus comes He is received but not for who He is but because they like to watch Him work miracles

2. A crisis brings a man to Jesus! **46** So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a **certain nobleman**, whose son was sick at Capernaum. **47** When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, **he went unto him**, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the **point of death**.

- a. A certain nobleman comes to Jesus with a need
 - i. His child is sick back in Capernaum
 - ii. His child is at the point of death
 - iii. He goes looking for help
 - iv. Pretty big step considering his position that he would look to Jesus to save his child--he is a nobleman, an official person in the government

- b. Most people are rejecting Jesus or only seeing Him as a side show
 - c. Amazing how a crisis and tragedy in our lives can humble us and make us willing to go seeking and asking for help
 - d. For witnessing to our friends and family we should make ourselves available in crisis time
 - e. Are you ready to help hurting people
 - f. People are hurting all over the world. We need to open our eyes and see how we can help them. **Psalm 142:4 I looked on *my* right hand, and beheld, But *there was* no man that would know me: Refuge failed me; No man cared for my soul.**
3. Believing enough to take the first step **48** Then said Jesus unto him, **Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.** **49** The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. **50** Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And **the man believed the word** that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. **51** And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told *him*, saying, Thy son liveth. **52** **Then** inquired he of them the

hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him,
Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

a. Jesus boldly and directly challenges the man's faith. 48

Then said Jesus unto him, **Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.**

i. The man doesn't even acknowledge what Jesus has said

ii. He just looks directly at Jesus and repeats the question-
will you come heal my son?

b. Jesus tells him to go his way that everything is alright-
that is a super bold statement.

i. Jesus is proving that He is in deed God

ii. He can heal from a distance

iii. He can hear and answer prayer from heaven

iv. He doesn't have to physically touch the person to make
it happen-He is God

c. The man believes without seeing 50 Jesus saith unto him,
Go thy way; thy son liveth. And **the man believed the
word** that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his
way.

i. Real faith takes the Lord Jesus at His Word

ii. We today have His Word. We can believe it and step out
in faith to do what He tells us to do

- iii. There were no further questions or discussions-He heard and he left
 - d. The man got no confirmation that what Jesus had said was true until he had been traveling.
 - i. By faith he had stepped out.
 - ii. By faith he had quit praying and accepted it as true
 - e. Confirmation was made clear when they discussed how the boy had gotten better
 - f. You can step out believing. Pray, seek God's face, study His Word. Act on what you know to be true
 - g. Feelings aren't the point here but Bible fact is
4. The results of a man stepping out by faith **53 So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and **himself believed, and his whole house.** 54 This *is* again **the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.****
- a. God, Jesus heard and answered his prayer
 - i. His son is alive and well
 - ii. He has had the joy of finding God and seeing His power
 - b. He now believes not the words of a miracle worker but God

- c. He becomes a believer and is saved
- d. His whole house believes in Jesus and gets salvation
- e. Believing when everyone else is doubting has brought great results

5. Your crisis can make or break your faith

- a. Many come to Christ in the midst of great personal need
- b. Will you get past all of your reasons and excuses for not believing?
- c. Will you see Jesus for who He really is-God in human flesh?
- d. Will you boldly and confidently present your need to the Father in spite of everything in you screaming that you shouldn't trust?
- e. Will you simply take Him at His Word without a need to see or feel something?
- f. Will you believe and just walk away knowing God has done what He says He will do?
- g. Are you teaching those in your house how to believe and live a life of faith?
- h. What spiritual heritage are you leaving for your children?
- i. Will your children learn to believe or doubt from you?

- j. Will your children know to seek God with their problems because of what they have seen and learned from you or will God be the last place to look?
- k. Are you leading a household of faith?
- l. Is your house full of praise and worship or complaining and selfishness?