

Life Groups

Signposts to Jesus



• JANUARY 2026

• TOPIC 2 • JOHN 4:46-54

Topic

Healing of an official's son.

First Thoughts

Jesus has been to Jerusalem, where John tells us he cleared the temple before celebrating the Passover feast. From here Jesus goes to the Judean countryside where we see John the Baptist giving way to Jesus. He then travels through Samaria and meets the woman at the well before returning to Cana in Galilee where he performs another miracle,



1. A commentator stated, "It seems to me that miracles carry the danger of drawing people for the wrong reasons." To what extent do you agree?

2. Have you ever, or do you know of someone who has, experienced a miracle?

Focus

Almost like two bookends Jesus performs two Miracles at Cana. In this last section of chapter 4 we hear of an official who lives nearby that needs the help of Jesus. Most likely he has heard of the wedding miracle and is hoping that Jesus can also help his son.

The Scriptures

 Read John 4:46-54

It is likely this man was linked to Herod Antipas, Tetrarch (ruler of Galilee). How much of a risk was it for him to ask for Jesus' help? See John 14:6-12

Going Further

1. Do you think Jesus' response was aimed at the official or the people nearby? See 1 Cor 1:21-25

2. What do you make of the official's response to what Jesus says about signs?

3. Why do you think the official believes the miracle without seeing it for himself? See Luke 7:7-8

4. One commentator states that this official, "experienced the levelling effect of affliction". To what extent do you agree?

5. What does John tell us about each of these first and second miracles? See John 2:11 and 4:53

Life Application

Should faith be conditional on seeing proofs or experiencing miracles? See John 20:29

What do you think these two accounts of Jesus' miracles tell us about persistence in prayer and in Jesus' words?

What do you notice in this account in John 4 about how Jesus deals with people?

Might there be a lesson in humility for us here? See James 4:6

What does this account tell us about faith in Jesus and his power and what lesson is there here for us today?

"These words imply the contrast between the Samaritans, who believed because of his word, and the Jews who would not believe but through signs and prodigies."

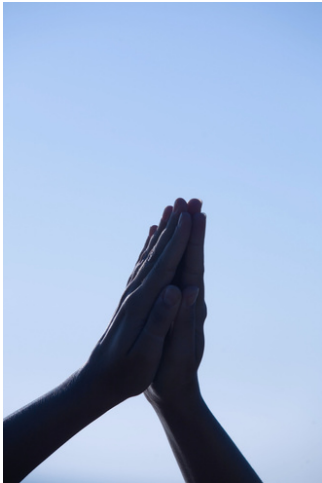
- Alford

"The nobleman was so sure that his child was alive and well, that he was in no violent hurry to return...but went his way leisurely and calmly, confident in the truth of what Jesus had said to him."

- CH Spurgeon

Prayer

Dear Father,



Thank You for the lessons learned in this study of Your word. Too often we can be people like the nobleman, seeking a sign or a miracle, but we pray for a deeper level of faith. We know that trouble comes to all, rich and poor, and we are grateful that You often use these struggles to draw us closer to Yourself.

Help us to take You at Your word and trust You even when we don't see immediate results. We pray for a spiritual 'second wind' to give us the strength to persevere in challenging situations. Bless us, Lord, so that we will experience more of Your love in our lives and in the lives of those in our households, just as you blessed the nobleman and his son.

Amen

To finish

Take a few moments to pray for those on the church prayer list, and for any others you know who are struggling with ill health. Pray for those who, like the nobleman, make the decision to follow Christ despite the repercussions.

Finally pray for those who are in need of help from CAP. Ask that their situation will improve and that through the ministry of those on the team they will come to know freedom from debt and find freedom in Christ Jesus.