

# Gospel of John Study Notes

## John 4c – Jesus Heals an Official's Son

Chapter 4 begins with the well-known story of the Woman at the Well, but it ends with a brief encounter with a royal official. How does part 3 of chapter 4 fit into the schema?

- John 4:1-26, Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman
- John 4:27-42, The Disciples Return
- John 4:43-54, Jesus Heals an Official's Son



## Jesus Heals an Official's Son

Jesus returns to his hometown area and is initially received well in Galilee. As he gets closer to home, it appears that the crowd is growing, but the sentiment is one that doesn't sit well with Jesus: they want the miracle show to continue.

- “They had seen all he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival.” What had he done? (read John 2:13-25)
- A prophet is without honor in his hometown as recorded in the synoptics:
  - Matthew 13:53-58, “...and they took offense at him.” (v57)
  - Mark 6:1-5, “...And they took offense at him.” (v3)
  - Luke 4:14-30, “All the people in the synagogue were furious...” (v28)
- Then we meet a “certain royal official” who orders Jesus to come and heal his son. Jesus, in return, orders the official to return home

## Second Sign

- First sign: water turned into wine in Cana. John 2:11, “What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.”
- Second sign was seen in the area around Cana. “Signs”, though miraculous, were given for a reason.
- The signs are all about Jesus revealing his glory. What does it mean to “reveal his glory?” Take some time and write down your thoughts on this key concept.

## Faith

It's all about faith beyond status. Nicodemus, the woman, and the royal official all had some status, but the question always returned to that of faith.

## John 4:43-54

New International Version

### Jesus Heals an Official's Son

<sup>43</sup> After the two days he left for Galilee. <sup>44</sup> (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) <sup>45</sup> 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.

<sup>46</sup> 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. <sup>47</sup> 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.

<sup>48</sup> "Unless you people see signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe."

<sup>49</sup> The royal official said, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

<sup>50</sup> "Go," Jesus replied, "your son will live." The man took Jesus at his word and departed.

<sup>51</sup> While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. <sup>52</sup> 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."

<sup>53</sup> 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.

<sup>54</sup> This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.