

JESUS IS LIFE

The purpose of John's Gospel: "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:30-31

Seven Signs of John:

1. Turning Water into Wine (John 2:1-12)
2. Cleansing the Temple (John 2:13-25)
3. Healing the Official's Son (John 4:43-54)
4. Healing a Lame Man (John 5-6:2)
5. Feeding the Multitude (John 6)
6. Healing a Blind Man (John 9)
7. Raising Lazarus (John 11-12)



Today's "sign" shows us a Jesus whose WORDS
have POWER



"Jesus said to him, 'Go; your son will live.' The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way."

John 4:50

STAGE 1- A CURIOUS Faith (4:46-50a)

For the one seeking, this stage of faith is marked by a curiosity about spiritual things and openness to spiritual conversations.

For the follower of Jesus, this stage is a great time to initiate spiritual conversations with the seeker, ask questions, read the Bible with them, and point them to Jesus.

Jesus' challenge to this man is whether he would remain a part of the crowd that is always demanding a sign or was he willing to step out of the crowd and put his belief and trust in Jesus.

STAGE 2- A CONFIDENT Faith (4:50b-53a)

For the new/young believer you have belief that is willing to trust and take action, even among the doubts and questions. Here is where you need to connect to Christian community and lean into the Bible and prayer.

For the mature follower of Jesus this is your opportunity to dig deeper in God's Word with them, model what a life lived for Jesus looks like for them.

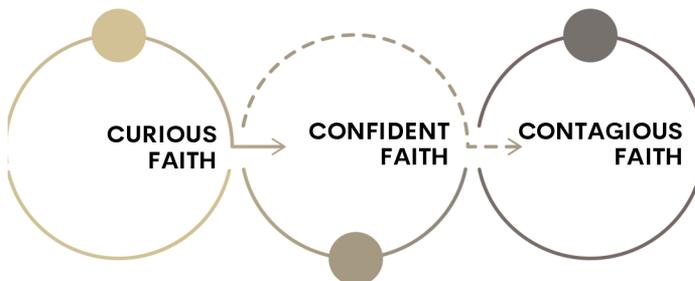
Is your faith more than curiosity. Curiosity will lead you to get more information and ask more questions, but curiosity does not lead to life transformation. You have to take action on what you discover during your curious stage.

STAGE 3- A CONTAGIOUS Faith (4:53b)

At this stage your faith is exciting and contagious and you look for opportunities to share it with others. You can focus on sharing your story about how Jesus has impacted and changed your life.

For the mature follower of Jesus this is where the other person's eagerness and enthusiasm to have Gospel conversations with others can inspire and challenge you to increase your evangelistic fervor if it has waned.

Even the most mature followers of Jesus may go through seasons of struggle and doubt. There may be questions we have that we simply don't get answers for this side of eternity. Yet these questions and doubts don't shake or destroy our faith.



Which stage would you say you are at currently? Are you satisfied with your answer?