

High House  
Trembling Miracles  
Requests

John 4:46-54

### FAITH TO COME

John 4:46-47 - "So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death."

- LIKELY HIGH POSITION IN HEROD'S SERVICE
- 20 MILES
- COMPELLED BY LOVE, CONCERN, AND A LITTLE BIT OF FAITH TO SOLVE A PROBLEM

### FAITH TO TRUST

John 4:48-50 - "48 So Jesus said to him, 'Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.' 49 The official said to him, 'Sir, come down before my child dies.' 50 Jesus said to him, 'Go; your son will live.' The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way."

### 46 JESUS' REQUEST + AIM

- YOU = PLURAL
- SIGNS NEUTRAL: TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE BOTH PROBLEMATIC
- GOD IS FAITH

### 49 OFFICIAL'S PERSISTENCE + TRUE DESIRES

- GENTLE REQUEST REWARD WEL
- THOUGHT CHRIST NEEDED TO COME (DISTANCE) BEFORE SON DIED (TIME)
- JESUS SAW: PRIMARY WORK WAS FOR SON, NOT SIGNS

### 50 JESUS' WORD + OFFICIAL'S TRUST

### FAITH TO BELIEVE

John 4:51-54 - "51 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52 So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, 'Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.' 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, 'Your son will live.' And he himself believed, and all his household. 54 This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee."

Matthew Henry - He has believed the word of Christ, with reference to this particular occasion; but now he believed in Christ as the Messiah promised, and became one of his disciples.

IS GOD GOOD?

ALL OF THIS (MIRACLES, PRAYER)

FALLS BACK TO CHRIST'S BIG INVITATION:

WILL YOU FOLLOW ME AS I LEAD YOU TO THE FATHER?

• SMALL CHURCH PASTOR, NOT CONFESSING SPEAKER - I KNOW THINGS  
• IT IS MY JOB TO HOLD UP TRUTH TO YOU  
• SOME WEEKS STRAIGHTFORWARD, OTHER WEEKS HARSH  
• TODAY, EITHER ① EMPTY PROMISES OF OUTDATED RELIGION } ONE LEADS TO DISAPPOINTMENT  
② REVELATION OF THE CHARACTER OF A LIVING GOD } ONE LEADS TO GLORY + SOI

GROUP - MEN CONFESSING STRUGGLE WITH THIS

BEWARE OF OUR BIAS TOWARDS FIXING PROBLEM OVER FIXING GIBS + HEART

• BROTHERS + SISTERS, WE MUST LEARN TO BRING IT ALL TO HIM

- 1 PETER 5 - CASTING ANXITIES

- Philippians 4:6-7 - "...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

↓  
PEACE... So many people dread what comes and are surprised by peace

• PROBLEM MAY NOT BE SOLVED IN WHAT WE HEARD, BUT PEOPLE PROMISED

Matthew Henry - Observe, Christ first shows him his sin and weakness, to prepare him for mercy, and then grants his request. Those whom Christ intends to honor with his favors he first humbles with his frowns. The comforter shall first convince... This is the method Christ takes, first to work upon us, then to work for us, and there is hope if we find him entering upon this method... The nobleman would have Christ come down and heal his son; Christ will heal his son, and not come down. And thus the cure is the sooner wrought, the nobleman's mistake rectified, and his faith confirmed; so that the thing was better done Christ's way. When he denies what we ask, he gives what is much more to our advantage: we ask for ease, he gives patience.

WE JUST WANT WHAT WE WANT  
JESUS WORKS IN US + WANTS BETTER

SOMETHING ABOUT JESUS' WORDS  
MADE A PANICKED MAN TRUST

TRUST IN WHAT JESUS SAYS  
GOD MAY NOT BE EASY TO HEAR NOW,  
BUT WHAT HAS HE SAID ALREADY?

Proverbs 3:5-12 (NLT) - Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil. Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones. Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine. My child, don't reject the Lord's discipline, and don't be upset when he corrects you. For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Psalms 27:11-14 - Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

TRUSTING IS THE NEXT STEP  
FOR SOME OF US  
WHERE HAS HE BEEN BEFORE?

LIFE WITH GOD IS NOT A  
CONCESSION PRIZE TO GETTING  
WHAT WE WANT IN LIFE

GOD IS THE REWARD

Psalms 4?  
Psalms 73?

- GOD TOLD JESUS NO / PAUL NO
- HE LOVES YOU

Philip Yancey - There is a simple cure for people who doubt God's love and question God's grace: to turn to the Bible and examine the kind of people God loves. Jacob, who dared take God on in a wrestling match and ever after bore a wound from that struggle, became the eponym for God's people, the "children of Israel." The Bible tells of a murderer and adulterer who gained a reputation as the greatest king of the Old Testament, a "man after God's own heart." And of a church being led by a disciple who cursed and swore that he had never known Jesus. And of a missionary being recruited from the ranks of the Christian-torturers. I get mailings from Amnesty International, and as I look at their photos of men and women who have been beaten and cattle-prodded and jabbed and spit on and electrocuted, I ask myself, "What kind of human being could do that to another human beings?" Then I read the book of Acts and meet the kind of person who could do such a thing (Paul) - now an apostle of grace, a servant of Jesus Christ, the greatest missionary history has ever known. If God can love that kind of person, maybe, just maybe, he can love the likes of me.