

# A Miracle from a Distance

June 7, 2026 / [John 4:45-54](#) / FBC Glen Este

## Supernatural Stories for the Summer — Series

### A Miracle from a Distance

Pastor Brent Snook · June 7, 2026 · 10:30 AM Service

Text: [John 4:45-54](#)

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***“Serving Jesus with doubt is like driving with the parking brake on.”***

If there is one thing that would change our lives, it is **stronger faith**. Today’s miracle is a perfect example of John’s stated purpose for recording the signs of Jesus:

*“These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.” — [John 20:30-31](#)*

One man — a nobleman with wealth, power, and influence — was compelled to make a 20-mile journey to find Jesus. Not out of curiosity, but out of desperation. His son was near death.

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#### I. THE CONDITION OF THE SON — v. 46

##### A. The Status of the Man Who Came to Jesus

This nobleman was an **officer in the King’s Court** — a man of great wealth and influence in high places. He had prestige, power, and every perk that came with it. But he had a problem that none of those benefits could solve.

##### B. The Sorrow of the Man Who Came to Jesus — v. 46

His son was sick and near death. For the first time in this officer’s life, he realized how little money really means. Money can keep poverty from your door — but it cannot keep problems out of your life.

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#### II. THE CONVERSATION WITH THE SAVIOR — vv. 47-50

Many a person has been brought to Jesus because of the needs of a child. Some people don’t get interested in

church, the Bible, or Jesus until there is a problem. This man's problem brought him to Jesus — and that is a very smart thing: to take your problems to the One who can solve them.

## A. The Plea from the Man — vv. 47–49

### 1. His Plea Was Focused — vv. 47, 49

It was a dying son that brought him to a divine Savior. The word *"besought"* means he begged and kept on begging. He went himself — not sending a servant — and poured his heart out to the Lord. Do you realize that if this man had not known grief, he may never have known grace? **Anything that drives you to Jesus is a blessing** — whether it be cancer, the loss of a job, or the desertion of a spouse.

### 2. His Plea Was Flawed

There were several obstacles to this man's faith:

#### Obstacle #1 — Secondhand Faith

He had *heard* about Jesus — seen the water turned to wine — and thought, *"Maybe He can heal my son."* But secondhand faith is not strong faith. You cannot go to heaven on your mother's faith, your pastor's faith, or anybody else's faith.

#### Obstacle #2 — Demanding Faith

*"Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe."*— v. 48. This is what many people have wanted throughout history: *"Give me a sign."* Even at the cross they cried, *"Let him come down and we will believe."* When Jesus fed the 5,000, the crowds celebrated — but when He spoke of the cost of discipleship, they walked away.

#### Obstacle #3 — Strong-Willed Faith

The nobleman was accustomed to giving orders. He told Jesus *what* to do, *how* to do it, and *when* to do it. The man said: **"Come!"** Jesus said: **"Go."** Strong faith waits upon God, listens to God, and acts on what God says — it does not dictate to God. Distance makes no difference with Jesus. Do you have children far away with a real problem? **Distance is no problem for Him.**

## B. The Promise from the Messiah — v. 50

Jesus said, in effect: *"I won't give you my presence — but I will give you my promise: your son is healed."* If the Word of God is not good enough for you, the works of God won't be good enough either.

Now faith took hold of this nobleman — in three steps:

1. He **heard** the Word — *"Go thy way, thy son liveth"*

2. He **believed** the Word — *“The man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him”*

3. He **obeyed** the Word — *“He went”* — no longer pleading, but believing. He was 20 miles from home and simply took Jesus at His word.

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### III. THE CONFIRMATION OF THE SERVANT — vv. 51–53

#### A. Assurance of the Father

His servants came to meet him with great news — the boy was healed at the exact hour Jesus had spoken. Notice the difference between verse 50 and verse 53:

- In v. 50 — he had a **satisfied faith**: he believed in the *promise* of Jesus
- In v. 53 — he had a **saving faith**: he believed in the *Person* of Jesus
- First he believed in the **sign** — now he believed in the **Savior**

#### B. Acceptance of the Family — v. 53b

*“...and his whole house.”* Picture the scene:

- The **servants** run out to tell him about the miracle — he says: *“Let me tell you about the Man who performed it.”*
- His **wife** meets him on the porch — he says: *“Let me tell you about the Man who performed the miracle.”*
- The **boy** runs out of his room into his daddy’s arms — *“Daddy, I’m a walking miracle!”* — and the father says: *“Son, let me tell you about the Man who performed the miracle.”*

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#### — The Great Physician —

*“Doc — as long as I have a tongue in my mouth, there won’t be anybody who will ever forget what you have done for me.”*

Friend — the Great Physician who can heal a body can also **save a soul**. Distance is no obstacle. No situation is beyond His reach. Take Him at His word — hear it, believe it, and act on it.