



Walking With the Savior

Through An Eyewitness Account of John

John, one of the sons of Zebedee, stood as an eyewitness to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. He began his journey as a fisherman, leaving behind his nets and the future he had planned for himself to follow a teacher, a prophet, and a miracle worker. At the outset, John did not fully understand who Jesus was or what lay ahead. In faith, he aligned himself with Jesus, drawn by His words and deeds.

As John walked alongside Jesus, witnessing His teachings and miracles, he gradually realized that Jesus was far more than a prophet or a remarkable teacher. John came to understand that Jesus was God in the flesh. This revelation was not just a turning point for John personally, but a moment of eternal significance. By choosing to follow Jesus, John's future was forever changed, and his decision would go on to impact the world—not only in his own time but throughout every generation to come. **Let's embark on an inspiring journey with John as we walk alongside Jesus.**

Background Matters

4:46–47. The **certain royal official** is not identified. He could have been a Gentile or a Jew, a centurion, or a minor official in Herod's court. Possibly he was a Jew because Jesus included him among the people who desire signs and wonders (v. 48; cf. 1 Cor. 1:22). **His son** had been **sick**, and undoubtedly he had exhausted all the local means at his disposal. Failure of position and money to solve his problem drove him from **Capernaum** to the village of **Cana**, 20 to 25 miles away, hoping that the Healer would save his **son** from **death**.

4:48. Jesus' address to him, though sharp, was necessary. A faith built only on miraculous signs is not a complete faith (cf. 2:23–25). Many (**you people**) hesitate to **believe** in Jesus apart from seeing **miraculous signs** (*sēmeia*) and **wonders** (*terata*). Faith in **Jesus** is absolutely necessary, but not all believers are given public portents (cf. Matt. 16:1–4; 1 Cor. 1:22).



4:49. The **official** was in no position emotionally to argue his case theologically. All he could plead for was mercy, for his **child** was at the point of death.

4:50. Jesus' calm reply to the official's desperate request created a crisis. **Jesus** announced, **You may go. Your son will live.** If the official really believed that Jesus could make a difference in Capernaum, he must also believe Him now in Cana. So he **took Jesus at His word and** left.

4:51–53. **On the way** back the official must have pondered Jesus' promise every step of his journey. **His servants met him with good news. His boy was living.** The official asked **when his son** recovered. The healing was no accident, for it occurred at **the exact** moment Jesus made His promise to him. It was **at the seventh hour**, which by Roman time was 7:00 in the evening. The man's faith grew, and he brought **all his household** to faith. The lesson of this incident is that Jesus' power is able to save from death even at a great distance. His Word has power to work; people are simply to believe His Word.

4:54. Both signs **in Galilee** (changing the water into wine [2:1–11] and healing the official's son) demonstrate that Jesus is the Promised One. Yet both signs had a certain hidden aspect to them. Only the disciples and some servants saw His miracle at the wedding, and this healing was not in public view.¹

This week in "Walking With the Savior"

*Faith, ignited in the hearts of believers, is often described as a perspective that highlights God's ability to guide His people through challenges, despite natural limitations. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith itself and illustrates its significance. Throughout various biblical accounts, individuals are frequently portrayed as **exhibiting a demeanor shaped by their faith.** Just as fear has identifiable characteristics, faith also has its unique qualities. In contrast, doubt often manifests as expressions that lead to feelings of hopelessness and stagnation.*

The face of faith is illustrated in various instances. Abraham is a key example of living by faith, while Joseph displayed his belief that God would ultimately free His people from bondage by planning for his own burial (Genesis 50:25). Likewise in this passage before us, an official demonstrated his spiritual belief and confidence when Jesus told him, "Go your way; your son is healed, he turned and left Jesus to return to his family with the face of faith holding him."

¹ Edwin A. Blum, "John," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 288.



Study Guide 13

This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your growth in the Word. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.

The Face of True Faith

Jesus Heals the Official's Son

John 4:43–54

Open It, Mondays. Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1. *What are some things that people believe in that they either haven't seen or can't see?

Explore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. Where did Jesus go after He left Samaria? (4:43)

3. What did Jesus say about prophets? (4:44)

4. Why did the Galileans welcome Jesus? (4:45)



5. What had Jesus done in Cana? (4:46)

6. What did the royal official ask Jesus to do? (4:47)

7. *What did Jesus say about miraculous signs? (4:48)

8. How did the royal official respond to Jesus' comment about miraculous signs? (4:49)

Push on Wednesday, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

9. *What did Jesus say in response to the royal official's renewed request? (4:50)

10. What was the royal official's response to what Jesus said? (4:50)

11. When did the royal official's son get better? (4:51–53)

12. *What impact did Jesus' healing have on the royal official's household? (4:53)

13. How many miracles had Jesus performed? (4:54)



14. For what reasons are people interested in Jesus today?

15. In what ways are we typically more interested in what Jesus can do for us than what we can do for Jesus?

16. What miracles have you asked Jesus to do in your life?

Get It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

17. *When do we usually find ourselves asking God to help us?

18. Why is it sometimes hard to take Jesus at His word?

19. What are some things God has told us in His Word that are hard for you to believe?

20. How have you exercised believing—sight unseen—faith in Jesus?

21. What miraculous signs are people looking for today?

22. In what ways are we demanding of God in our relationship with Him?



23. *What impact would a miraculous event have in your life?

Drive it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

24. *What is something specific you can thank God for doing in your life?

25. How do you need to trust in God this week to handle a situation you can't control or work out on your own?

A Journey Through The Gospel of John **2026**

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