

Agape House of Worship

Wednesday Bible Study – March 25, 2026

Study Series: **THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE: A Journey Through the Gospel of John**

Part 8: **Second Sign: Healing the Official's Son**

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INTRODUCTION

The Gospel of John describes Jesus' miracles as signs because they reveal deeper spiritual truths about who Jesus is. The healing of the royal official's son is the second sign recorded in John's Gospel, and it shows us how faith grows from desperation into maturity.

Scriptures: John 4:43–54, Psalm 107:20, Isaiah 55:11

I. The Geography of Desperation (John 4:43–46)

- The official lived in Capernaum (the bustling commercial hub), but he traveled to Cana (the village of the first miracle).
- The Distance: This was a trek of approximately 20 miles (32 km) with a significant elevation gain.
- The Status: The term "royal official" suggests he served in the court of Herod Antipas. His money, title, and connections were useless against a fever.
- The Point: High social standing does not exempt us from human suffering. But Christ meets every need—regardless of position. John 14:6 (KJV) "I am the way, the truth, and the life..."

Discussion Question: What was the "Capernaum" in your life—that place of comfort or status—that failed you when a crisis hit, forcing you to look toward Jesus?

II. The Confrontation of "Sign-Seeking" (John 4:47–49)

- When the man finds Jesus, his request is urgent: "Come down!" He believed Jesus had to be physically present to work.
- The Rebuking of the Crowd: Jesus responds, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will never believe" (v. 48).
- The Correction: Jesus was addressing the tendency to treat Him like a magician rather than the Messiah. He wanted to see if the man's heart was seeking a physician or a Savior. Jesus is not against miracles—He performs one in this very story. But He refuses to let miracles become the foundation of faith. Instead, He wants relationship, trust, and recognition of His identity.
- The Persistent Plea: The man did not argue; he simply cried out for his child. This is the heart of intercessory prayer. Hebrews 4:16 – "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence..."

Discussion Question: Why do you think we often demand a "sign" or a specific "feeling" before we are willing to believe God is actually working in our situation?

III. The Power of the Spoken Word mixed with Faith John 4:50–51, Psalm 107:20. **Isaiah 55:11**

- Jesus did not go with the man. Instead, He gives him a sentence: "Go; your son will live."

- The Pivot Point: This is the most critical moment. The man had to decide: Do I stay and beg Him to come, or do I turn around based only on His word?
- Active Faith: The text says the man "took Jesus at his word and departed." Faith is not a feeling; it is a footstep taken in the direction of God's promise. Romans 10:17, Hebrews 11:1-2, Hebrews 11:6

Discussion Question: *Is there a "word" or a promise from Scripture that Jesus is asking you to walk on right now, even though you haven't seen the "fever" break yet?*

V. The Sovereignty of Christ: This proves Jesus is not bound by space. He didn't need to "travel" to the boy; His authority is omnipresent. John 4:52–54, Psalms 107:20, Mathew 28:18, Colossians 1:17

- The man is met by his servants the next day. He asks when the boy got better, not if he got better.
- The "Seventh Hour": The fever left at 1:00 PM—the exact moment Jesus spoke. Because you have not seen physical changes does not mean you are not healed.

IV. The Result: SALVATION AND HEALING. The miracle in the son led to the salvation of the father and the entire household. John 4:53, Acts 16:31 – "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

Discussion Question: *Looking back at your own life, can you identify a "seventh hour"—a moment where God was working behind the scenes before you actually saw the evidence?*

V. Diverse Ways Jesus Healed

Jesus never used a "one-size-fits-all" approach. He treated every person as an individual.

1. Healing by His Word (Remote Healing). Psalm 107:20
2. Healing by Touch: Matthew 8:3, Mark 1:41:
3. Through Faith Response(Personal or Others' Faith)Woman with issue of blood Mark 5:25–34, Mark 2:5.
4. Healing Through Command: Peter's mother in law. Luke 4:39
5. Healing Through Prayer: John 11:41–43
6. Compassion is often the gateway to miracles.
7. Through Obedient Action: Blind man told to wash in Siloam John 9:6–7, Luke 17:14(ten leper)

Discussion Question: *Of these different ways Jesus heals, which one resonates most with your personal journey? How has He "reached" you specifically?*

VI. Components in Receiving Healing

Healing is provided, but there are spiritual principles in receiving.

1. Faith: Faith is trust in Christ's Word before visible evidence. Hebrews 11:6 , John 4:50
2. Humility: The nobleman humbled himself. James 4:6 – God gives grace to the humble.
3. Persistence: He pleaded again John 4:49. Luke 18:1
4. Obedience and Patience Hebrew 6:12, Isaiah 1:19

VII. Conclusion: Salvation Is the Main Point.

The official came seeking a miracle, but found the Savior. Jesus not only healed the child but used the moment to bring the entire household into faith, revealing that salvation—of eternal value, not just temporary solutions—is His ultimate purpose (3 John 2).