



Gospel of John 1-12

Your Son Lives

Jesus returns to Galilee and does the second 'sign' of His ministry. This is the first physical healing that John records and is a different occurrence than the Centurion and his son. (*Matt 8:5-13*)

Introduction: [*vv. 43-45*] Jesus spent two days in Sychar as a result of meeting the woman at the well. He now heads off to Galilee.

Honor or no honor? The parabolic phrase of [*v. 44*] refers to either Judea where He was born or Nazareth where He grew up. The point is that those from certain areas were less inclined to listen to His message or believe His work. The Galileans however [*v. 45*] welcomed Him—they had seen Him at the feast in Jerusalem. [*see John 2:23*]

A. **The Nobleman** *vv. 46-47*

1. Who was the Nobleman? He was an officer in the service of King Herod Antipas. He traveled 15-20 miles propelled by a 'seeking' faith in Jesus ability to do signs and wonders.

2. You must come: *v. 47b* He believed that Jesus had to travel to the bedside of his son to heal him before he died.

B. **The Healer** *vv. 48-50*

1. Galilean faith? *v. 48* Jesus is testing the faith of the father, seeking to raise it to a higher level. Jesus did not condemn outright a faith rising out of signs and wonders. The question here and elsewhere (*see 3:1-2*) simply asks if such elementary faith will move beyond its foundations.

2. Come down: *v. 49* The father's second request opens with 'Sir.' The term 'sir' here was meant to convey that the father was placing himself under Jesus authority.

3. Not your way but My way: *v. 50* While Jesus agreed to help, He did not agree to the plan of action offered by the father: Jesus would not go down with him to Capernaum. Instead He instructed the father to return home alone, trusting in Jesus' simple assertion, "Your son lives."

4. Believing His word: *v. 50* Now the father shows bold faith. He asked no questions, needed no further proof. Jesus' word was enough. "**Your son lives.**" Three times in this brief narrative these words ring out like the joyous refrain of a resurrection hymn!

C. **The Healing** *vv. 51-54*

1. The physical healing: *vv 51-53* The details about the meeting between the father and his servants are intended to demonstrate clearly that the boy regained his health completely and that his return to health corresponded precisely with the time of Jesus' pronouncement. Such a remarkable coincidence could only mean one thing: Jesus had in fact healed him, long-distance!

2. The spiritual healing: *v. 53b* Here is the last stage of the father's growing faith. As with the Samaritan woman—the father's faith grew in an incremental way until FULL faith was put in Jesus word.

In the coming of physical health in the father's home, spiritual health is born. New life always reproduces itself.

John 4:43-54 (NKJV)

—**43** Now after the two days He departed from there and went to Galilee.

44 For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.

45 So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast.

—**46** So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum.

47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

—**48** Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."

49 The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!"

50 Jesus said to him, "Go your way; **your son lives.**" So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.

—**51** And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "**Your son lives!**"

52 Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."

53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "**Your son lives.**" And he himself believed, and his whole household.

54 This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.