

LIFE Group Sermon Discussion Questions  
For John 4:43-54 – “A Parent in Pain”  
Nov. 7, 2010

Summary – Jesus returns to Galilee from Samaria, knowing that He will get a better reception than in Jerusalem for the time being. He encounters a father with a sick child who asks that Jesus come with him and heal his child. After what seems to be gentle rebuke and a challenge to test his faith, Jesus gives the word, heals the child, and tells the father to go back to his son. In so doing Jesus demonstrates His power over sickness and distance, just saying a word from 20 miles away to bring about the healing of the child who was back in Capernaum. He also demonstrates through this “sign” His ability to heal our sick souls through His word and power. Main points are around Jesus’ grace and power as the Son of God, the nature of real faith – faith that is real, that pleases Christ and brings deliverance – and the importance of obedience to His word.

1. What about the father impresses you?
2. Describe a crisis that tested your faith, that tempted you to give up on believing.
2. When did this father arrive at saving faith - when he first came, when he left Jesus, or when he heard the good news?
3. Why did Jesus say what he did regarding those who desired signs and wonders ? Was He stating fact, giving a rebuke, being critical, making a judgment...?
4. When you know of someone who is sick, how do you pray for them?
5. How would you counsel someone whose prayers for healing have not been answered?
6. What impresses you the most in this passage about Jesus?
7. How do we see Jesus demonstrating "grace and truth" in this passage?
8. Is it inherently more spiritual (i.e. more mature or more pleasing to God) to believe in Jesus words than to need miracles to stimulate faith? What's wrong with a miracle being needed to bring about faith?
10. Discuss the saying "What we believe, we do. All the rest is religious talk."

Rabbit Trail of the Week: Why does God not heal everyone we pray for?