OBSERVATIONS

Miracles do not <u>create</u> our faith, they happen <u>because</u> of our faith.

And when Jesus had finished these parables, he went away from there, and coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household." And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief. Matthew 13:53–58 (ESV)

True faith in Jesus is <u>coupled</u> to obedience.

 $\mathsf{Belief} \to \mathsf{Obedience} \to \mathsf{Waiting} \to \mathsf{Seeing}$

God tests our faith to grow our faith.

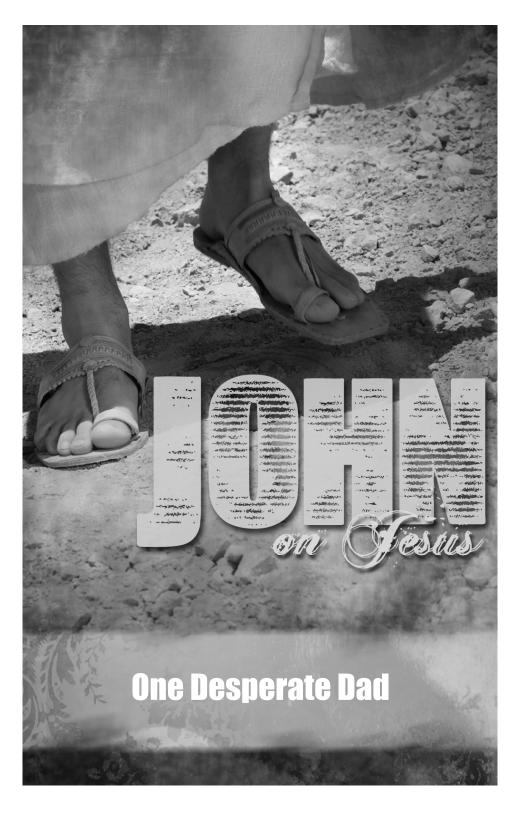
Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1:2–4 (ESV)

WARNING - Familiarity with Christ can morph into <u>false</u> <u>faith</u> in Christ.



All teaching material is also available at <u>www.christ2Rculture.com</u> Podcasts of sermons are on **iTunes**. Search *Christ 2R Culture*

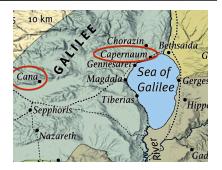
August 26 - John 5:1-17 - Healing at the Pool September 2 - John 5:19-29 - The Authority of Jesus



Faith Church - EFCA

August 19, 2012

John 4:44-54



One Confusing Statement

After the two days he departed for Galilee. (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. John 4:43–45 (ESV)

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust

himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness

about man, for he himself knew what was in man. John 2:23-25 (ESV)

So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. John 4:46 (ESV)

One Desperate Dad

And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. John 4:46–47 (ESV)

Do you want me or a miracle?

So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." John 4:48 (ESV)

So Jesus said to him, "Unless <u>ya'll</u> see signs and wonders <u>ya'll</u> will not believe." John 4:48 (ESV)

The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." John 4:49 (ESV)

Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." <u>The man believed the word that Jesus</u> spoke to him and went on his way. John 4:50 (ESV)

So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world." For not even his brothers believed in him. John 7:3–5 (ESV)

As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. John 4:51–53 (ESV)